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Remsen, J.V. 1976

Common Loon

Gavia immer

9 June Encino Reservoir, Los Angeles Co., Calif. : 1 Non-breed plum.

5 Aug. Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif : 3 - summering NBP

8 Aug. Point Reyes, Marin Co., Calif. : 3 - " "

11 Aug. Moss Landing, Monterey Co. Calif.: 2 " "

9 Oct. Union Reservoir, Weld Co., Colo. : 1

10 Oct. Barr Lake, Adams Co., Colo. : 1

12 Oct. Platte Canyon Reservoir, Douglas Co., Colo. : 1

14 Oct. Waterton, Douglas Co., Colo. : 1 [same bird as 12 Oct. on Platte Cyn Res.]

16 Oct. Prewitt Res., Logan Co., Colo.: 4

18 Oct Union Res : 1 (same bird as Oct. 9 ?)

20 Oct. Nee Reservoirs, Kiowa Co., Colo. : 1 Nee Noshe Res.

24 Oct. Union Res: 1 (same bird as Oct. 9 - dark and small, but not Arctic white around eye when seen at close range)

Baseline Res., Boulder Co., Colo. : 1

Valmont Res., Boulder Co., Colo. : 1

28 Oct. Chatfield Reservoir, Douglas Co., Colo. : 2

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Arctic Loon

Gavia arctica

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif.: 2 on Ramer Lake where they were found on Christmas Count. One was definitely an adult with some pale sheen on the occiput and nape. Overall uniform brown without mottling or spots, very dull face, no pale in lores, sharp demarcation between face color and pale throat, smoothly rounded head, and noticeably small bill made ID obvious.

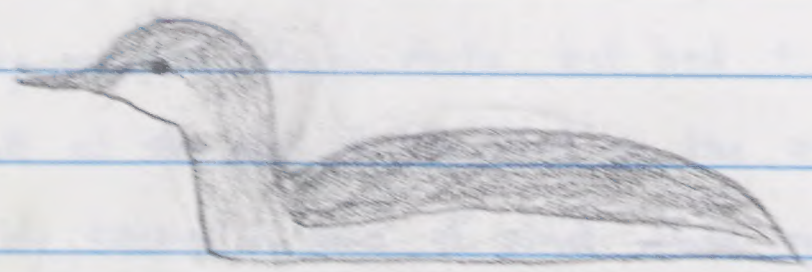
Feb. 7 [Salton Sea] definitely absent from Ramer Lake

Aug. 5 Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.: 2 NBP

Aug. 8 Pt. Reyes, Marin Co., Calif.: 8 NBP

Aug. 11 Año Nuevo St. Res., San Mateo Co., Calif.: 1 NBP

Oct. 22 Sloan's Lake, Denver Co., Colorado: 1 - studied for 20 minutes - non-breeding plumage. A small, dull loon, not much bigger (much shorter-necked) than nearby Western Grebes. The back was a uniform dull brown without any hint of speckling as in Red-throated or mottling as in Common. The ~~head~~ crown and neck were also uniform dull brown, extending below the eye; the throat was whitish, contrasting with dull face, but the demarcation was not nearly as sharp as on most Arctics; much of the lower throat was also dusky; bill very small and all dull.



The bill was so small that the question was really between Arctic and Red-throated, not Common; but it was very straight and not upturned and the bird was just too dull overall to be Red-throated.

Oct. 23 Sloan's Lake: 1 - (same bird) - today in the sunlight the silvery sheen on the nape was apparent.

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Arctic Loon

Gavia arctica

Oct. 24 Union Reservoir, Weld Co. Colo. : 1 - found here yesterday by Jack Reddall. Seen at huge distance, but small bill, dark face, gray nape, and small body size still evident.

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Red-throated Loon

Gavia stellata

Aug. 8 Pt. Reyes, Marin Co., Calif: 1 NBP

Sep. 5 Moss Landing, Monterey Co, Calif: 1

Oct. 27 Sloan's Lake, Denver Co., Colo.: 1 in partial breeding plumage studied for 2½ hours from as close as 50 ft, and for some of the time in excellent light. The sketch below was made while

watching the bird through the teleoscope. The bill was small and the lower mandible was upturned at the tip; the bill was held at an upward angle continuously; the head was a uniform solid gray, with only some white on the throat (thus mainly in breed plum); the throat had a dark smudge which was a reddish-brown when seen at the proper angle (hard to see); the head was not smoothly rounded like an Arctic but had a sloping forehead and a peak at the rear of the head on the occiput; the back was completely covered in rows of small white spots which were not visible at a distance but very conspicuous in good light or close range. The bird itself was very small, seemingly smaller than a Western Grebe and it did not dwarf a Horned Grebe. It swam very low in the water when on the move, the back barely clearing the water.

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Red-throated Loon

Gavia stellata

Sloan's Lake, Denver Co., Colo. [cont]

Oct. 27 [cont] In the afternoon, the bird got up and flew around the lake several times; the neck was held downwards at an angle and then bent up slightly at the head — the angles of both of these bends was greater than flying Commons and Arctics. In the afternoon we again got excellent views in great light. View of throat from head-on

There are only 3 previous ~~sight~~ reports from Colorado — an old specimen which is apparently lost, a 1956 sight record without any details, and a 1970s sight record with details.

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Horned Grebe
Podiceps auritus

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 at Red Hill Landing – sharply defined clean white face, crest on occiput sloping to bill – very rare inland.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif - 1 (NBP) Oasis dike. all white face and neck, diff. head shape and posture from Eared Grebe – extremely unusual summering in s. Calif, particularly inland.

Oct. 9 Union Reservoir, Weld Co., Colo. : 200+ – spectacular number for Colorado although apparently not unusual at this lake

Oct. 18 Union Res : 200+

Oct. 24 Union Res : 125 counted

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Black-footed Albatross

Diomedea nigripes

Feb. 15 Monterey Bay, Monterey Co. Calif: 2 on boat trip.

Apr. 4 Monterey Bay: 5 - boat trip

May 1 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif: 3 sv of San Clemente Is.

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip: 5 - 3 sv of San Clemente, 2 between San Clemente and San Diego

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Northern Fulmar

Fulmarus glacialis

Feb. 1 Morro Bay area, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif: ~15 seen from shore at Montana de Oro St. Park; they were mostly sitting on the water and occasionally flying around within reasonable telescope distance. All birds seen well were of the very buffy type.

Feb. 14 Monterey area, Monterey Co., Calif: 75+ seen from shore

Feb. 15 Monterey Bay: 300 - 10-20% white phase

Feb. 22 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co., Calif: 11 (2 white, 9 dark or intermediate). 7 were counted around one dead seal carcass. Floating in the ocean far from land.

Mar. 1 La Jolla, San Diego Co., Calif: 38 counted in 1 3/4 hrs. watching from shore in violent storm - 5 white phase, 33 dark. Some birds were less than 50 yds. from shore.

Apr. 4 Monterey Bay: 75 - boat trip; 30 in harbor

Apr. 25 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif: 2 off La Jolla

May 1 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif. 8

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip: 40 (4 white)

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is, Ventura + LA Cos, Calif: 25 (no white phase)

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Buller's Shearwater

Puffinus bulleri

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co. Calif.: 3 (2+1), all with pink-footed, ~ 10 mi. SW of Anacapa Is. — crisp demarcation between white underparts and dark upperparts, gray back, black and gray wing pattern in flight, gleaming white underwings with narrow black, well defined borders.

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Short-tailed Shearwater

Puffinus tenuirostris

Feb. 15 Monterey Bay, Monterey Co., Calif.: 3. One in particular was well-studied as it followed the boat. Bill was short and slim; head seemed smaller than Sooty's; wings narrower; upperparts very dark slaty, darker than underparts; underwings uniform pale smoky to tips of primaries – not flashy whitish contrasting with darker primaries.

Mar. 1 La Jolla, San Diego Co., Calif.: 3 seen from shore during violent storm. – 2 birds seen well enough to see that underwings were fairly dusky, not flashy white, and the very narrow wings, distinguishing them from Sooty. The third bird was assumed to be tenuirostris by its narrow wings. Sooty Shearwaters have been absent off S. Calif. this winter. One of the birds was fairly close to shore, perhaps 300 yds.

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Manx Shearwater

Puffinus puffinus

Feb. 1 Morro Bay area, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif: 1 seen from shore from Montana de Oro St. Park s. of Morro Bay — with N. Fulmars looked smaller, black above-white below crisp pattern.

Feb. 9 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif: 15 off La Jolla

Mar. 1 La Jolla, San Diego Co., Calif.: ~20 seen from shore during violent storm

Apr. 25 San Diego area: 10 off La Jolla.

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co.: 1 40 mi. offshore - unusually far from shore.

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip: 5

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip: 2

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Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel

Oceanodroma furcata

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif: I hung around the boat for 20 minutes and was photographed by several people as it sat on the water next to the boat — a pale gray storm petrel with dark area around eye, darker primaries and secondaries, shallow wingbeat and long tail. Perhaps furthest south this species has ever been recorded.

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Ashy Storm-Petrel

Oceanodroma homochroa

Mar. 1 La Jolla, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 seen from shore during violent storm as it slowly made its way against the wind up the beach right along the shore - very close - <50 yds away. An obvious storm-petrel, all dark with pale areas in secondaries; very fluttery flight with shallow wingbeats; wings medium length - not particularly long relative to the body; tail very long, sticking way out behind body. An extremely rare bird in San Diego Co. at any time of year and a very rare bird in Calif in March.

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif.: 3 - unusual off San Diego; flying with Black Storm Petrels for direct comparison.

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~~Wilson's Storm Petrel~~
~~Oceanites oceanicus~~

= Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrel
Oceanodroma tethys

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co., Calif.: 1 ~ 40 miles S. of Ventura, SW of Anacapa Island. I was watching the ocean from the bow when a small storm petrel with a very white rump flew right past the front of the boat, and I screamed "white-rumped petrel". Several people in the bow, including Ian MacGregor, got good looks at the bird briefly. I knew immediately the bird was not Leach's (thus "white-rumped") because of the very extensive white area on rump and tail, shorter wings, and much shallower wingbeat. Ian immediately suggested Wilson's. At first, that did not seem right to me because my only experience with this species has been in the roosting petrel flock in Monterey Bay where the bird has been fluttering low over the water, not cruising the ocean. But it was obvious that the bird had a very large amount of white on the rump and tail, eliminating the other white-rumped petrels which have occurred in Calif. The sketch below was made about 30 minutes after the observation.

white was extensive on rump and tail — not restricted to a patch on rump as in other white-rumped petrels.

Wings relatively short

The bird immediately disappeared but I relocated it a couple of minutes later flying high above the water (~ 10 ft.) looking a lot like a Violet-green Swallow. We chased after the bird for 15 minutes, during which time it spent most of its time high

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Wedge-rumped ~~Wilson's~~ Storm-Petrel

above the water, occasionally wheeling, banking and sailing down to the water. Wingbeat near the water was shallow and rather slow; above the water the wingbeat was deeper (but still nothing like Black or Leach's) but still rather slow. The flight was fairly buoy direct, not at all erratic (like Least). At one point a Black Storm Petrel passed underneath the Wilson's and dwarfed the Wilson's. The Wilson's looked the same size and shape as an Ashy-Petrel, or perhaps smaller. We chased the bird for many miles, during which time it stayed 5-15' above the water, only occasionally dropping down to ocean surface (~1 second); on one such occasion, however, it did patter its feet on the surface, supposedly diagnostic feeding behavior for this species. We never did get closer than 100 yds but even at distances much greater than this, the white rump was apparent — up to 1/4 mile.

MacGregor, Shum Suffel and myself were 100% convinced that it was a Wilson's Storm Petrel. Leach's Storm-Petrel has longer wings, deeper wingbeat, and white-rumped birds in Calif all apparently have the white divided by a grayish longitudinal stripe and the white does not extend nearly as far down the tail. Harcourt's and Galapagos apparently have the white rump much more restricted. None of us knew if Wilson's characteristically flew high above the water but this seemed quite distinctive and unlike any flight pattern any of us were familiar with in storm petrels

Aug. 19 After talking to Guy McCaskie on the phone and after reading R.C. Murphy, there seems to be a possibility that this bird was actually a Galapagos Storm-Petrel. Points against Wilson's are (1) Wilson's is supposed to hug the ocean surface

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Wedge-rumped Storm Petrel

Aug. 19 (cont) pattering constantly over the water; Murphy claims they never rise up above the water and this is a good field mark; the 2-3 Wilson's I have seen certainly did this. (2) Wilson's legs are supposed to protrude beyond the tail, and this is supposedly a good field mark; there were no legs protruding beyond the tail in this bird (although since I saw the bird really well for only ~ 2 seconds, I can't be 100% positive - I certainly did not notice any nor included this in my drawing) (3) my size estimate ~~[illegible]~~ was wrong - this bird looked like a swallow and several people at first even refused to believe that the bird we were following was not a swallow (at a distance); as noted above, the Black dwarfed this bird, whereas a Wilson's is not that much conspicuously smaller than Black (except in wing length and even then, only by 2") (4) although I have drawn the tail as being squared, I do know that it is difficult to see forks in petrel tails, and my attention was fixed on the pattern of the white rump and I saw the bird well for ~ 2 secs. at most - I am not completely confident on the shape of the rump patch even though that was the area I was concentrating on. I probably would have noticed if the tail was conspicuously forked and if there were legs trailing conspicuously behind tail. Apparently Galapagos Storm Petrel's tail appears square, being only slighty forked (5) Wilson's has a large white rump, but the tail is black - this can be seen in the photo in Small's "Birds of California". If there is any one point I'm 100% sure of, it is that the white came all the way down the tail to at least 2/3 of its length, leaving only

Reflecting upon the size of Ashy Petrels, I now realize that they are not that much smaller than Black.

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Wedge-rumped Storm Petrel

Aug. 19 (cont) a band of black on the tip. I can still see this in my mind when I am recalling the bird right in front of me. This is the way I drew my sketch. Although I did not draw the white as being wedge-shaped, supposedly a good mark for tethys, it is apparently not easy to see this shape clearly, especially on such a brief look. I am sure that the white came to within ~1/2 inch of the tip of the tail.

When the Black Petrel flew directly under the bird in question, there was a huge size difference.

✓ — Galapagos Storm Petrel

✓ — Black Storm Petrel

Ocean

Guy McCaskie showed me photos of a Black Petrel and a Least Petrel in same photo. I would say that the bird in question was about the same size as the Least Petrel in the photo when compared with the Black Petrel

Aug. 27 Phil Unitt's drawings of tethys as he saw them in field are very similar to mine — wedge not particularly conspicuous, tail drawn and described as "white with black fringe on tip"

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White Pelican

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos

Jan. 3 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co., Calif: 2 Hope Ranch – local rarity

Jan. 4 Santa Barbara area: 2 (again)

~~Jan~~ Feb. 1 Morro Bay area, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif: 118 counted

Mar. 28 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 25 Salton City

Mar. 27 ~~[illegible]~~ Bill Williams River, Co., Ariz: 20

Apr. 25 Salton Sea: 40 near Red Hill

July 14 Salton Sea, Riverside Co.: 25 Whitewater Delta

July 24 Salton Sea: 20 Whitewater Delta

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 100 Wister Unit

Oct. 10 Barr Lake, Adams Co., Colo.: 50

Oct. 16 Jumbo Res., Sedgwick Co., Colo.: 22

Prewitt Res., Logan Co., Colo.: 14

Oct. 25 Barr Lake: 3

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Brown Pelican

Pelecanus occidentalis

July 14 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif. : 15 imms. counted near Whitewater Delta.

July 17 Salton Sea, Riverside Co. : 1 im. North Shore Marina

July 24 Salton Sea : 10 Whitewater Delta

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co. : 52 counted (30 at Wister alone)

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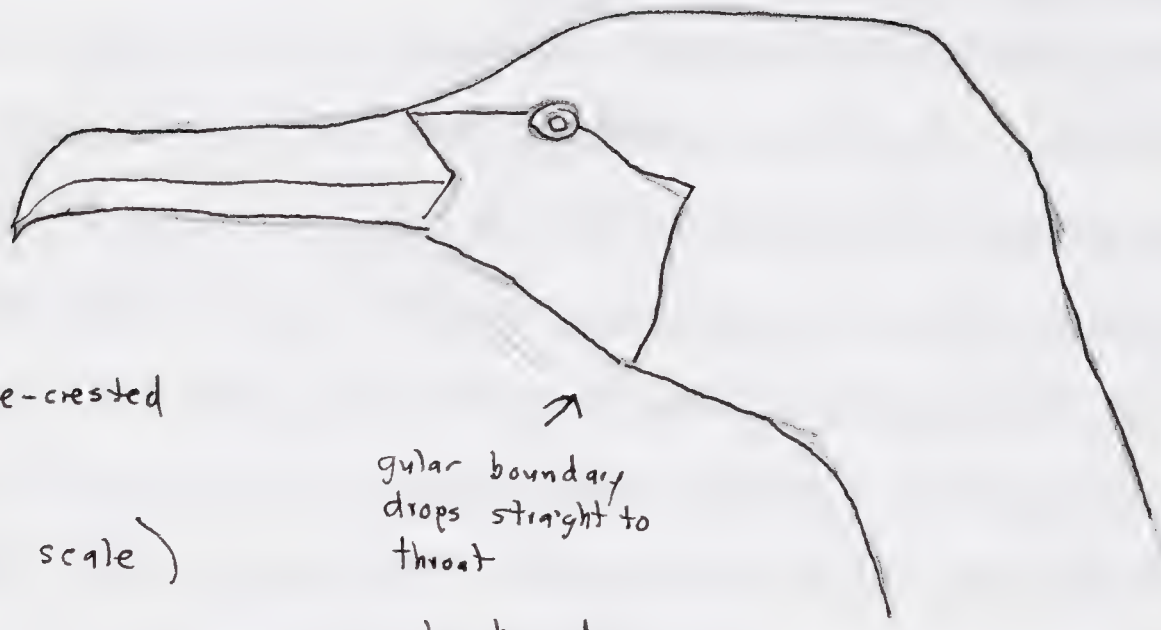
Olivaceous Cormorant

Phalacrocorax olivaceus

Feb. 28 Patagonia Dam, Santa Cruz Co., Arizona : 1 im. found sitting in dead tree next to Double-crested Cormorants at the eastern end of the reservoir. Jon Dunn spotted the bird from a great distance, (from the parking lot) and we walked ½ mile+ to the eastern end of the reservoir where we could study the bird a few hundred yards away (it filled the entire screen of the telescope). The bird was obviously much smaller (obvious through binoculars ½ mile away), perhaps only ⅔ the size of the Double-crestedS ~ 3 ft. away; overall body plumage a dark brownish - not very pale on neck and breast as in imm. Double-crestedS; overall shape was very similar to Double-crestedS, just much smaller - the neck was fat, the bill thick, and the head long and square as in Double-crested - not thin-necked, thin-billed, and tiny-headed as in Pelagic; the tail was proportionately much longer (obvious from a great distance; the iris was apparently yellowish-brown (not certain) rather than aqua-blue; the gular area was a pale buffy yellow rather than orange-yellow; and the shape of the gular patch was very different (see sketch on reverse); and the edges of the gular patch were faintly discernible as being pale whitish - a hint of the white outline of the gular patch present in breeding plumage. The bird was studied for over ½ hour, during which time it remained perched. This is apparently the first winter record for Arizona.

July 5 Patagonia Dam : 1 ad. and 1 imm. in same dead snags.



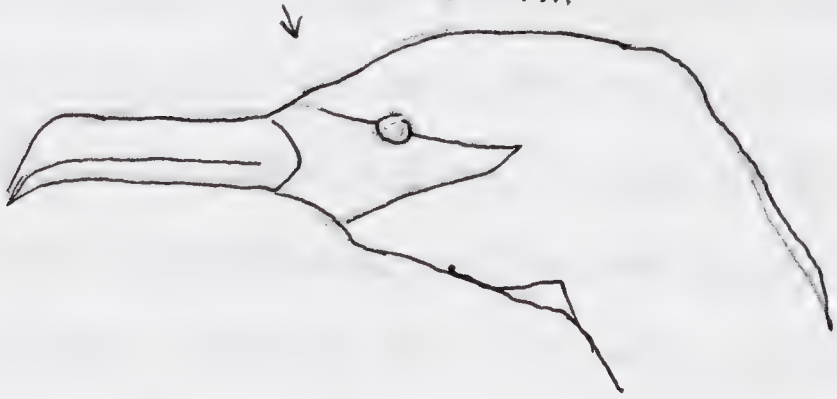
Double-crested

gular boundary drops straight to throat

(same scale)

gular boundary angles back diagonally towards base of bill

Olivaceous



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Red-billed Tropicbird

Phaethon aethereus

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 im ~25 mi off San Diego sitting on water next to boat. A second bird, an adult with long tail, was found later ~ 10 mi. off San Diego and it sat 30 ft. from the boat for 5 min. in beautiful late afternoon sun.

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Cattle Egret

Bubulcus ibis

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif: 4 riding backs of horses at Whalen Ranch

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1500

Feb. 7 Salton Sea: 500

Sep. 10 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif: 9

Sep. 12 Tijuana River Valley: 8

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Least Bittern

Ixobrychus exilis

May 27 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif.: 1 in cattails on golf course south pond

June 13 Furnace Creek Ranch: 1 in cattails on golf course - north pond

July 14 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif: at least 10 seen well at Whitewater Delta marshes, including one striped immature.

July 24 Salton Sea, Riverside Co: 15, Whitewater Delta.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 9

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American Bittern

Botaurus lentiginosus

Oct. 19 Bonny Reservoir, Yuma Co. Colo.: I watched eating a large Bullfrog in a ditch for 5 minutes - the bird was oblivious to our presence even though we were only 30 ft. away. Late or wintering bird.

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White-faced Ibis

Plegadis chihi

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif: 2 Whalen Ranch

Apr. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 Finney Lake, 1 Unit 1.

May 9 Salton Sea: 8 at Unit 1.

June 21 Salton Sea: 4 at Wister Unit.

June 6 Salton Sea: 11 Unit 1

Aug. 21 Salton Sea: 25 [20 over Finney Lake, 5 Unit 1]

Sep. 12 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif: 1

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White Ibis

Eudocimus albus

July 24 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif.: 1 ad. at marsh at Whitewater River mouth where it has been for 2 weeks. Watched for 15 minutes perched in the top of a dead tree: size of Snowy Egret or larger; all white plumage except for narrow black tips on primaries which were visible only in flight; facial skin brilliant pinkish red; legs also brilliant pinkish-red; color of face continuous with that on basal 2/3 of bill; distal 1/3 dark (sub ad.?). Sat nearly motionless during observation, except for one brief flight and return to perch. This species seems heftier than White-faced Ibis. Only one previous Calif. record (1935) ~~and none since 1935~~.

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Roseate Spoonbill

Ajaia ajaja

June 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 ad (?) was seen at close range with Wood Storks at Wister Unit — lots of pink in plumage, especially wing-linings; spatulate bill. One has been seen in the vicinity in the last two weeks.

June 26 Salton Sea: 1 — same bird near same spot.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea: 1 — " — much pinker now than in June.

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Whistling Swan

Olor columbianus

Jan. 5 Baker, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 1 imm. on a small pond in town, just e. of Royal Hawaiian Motel. Black legs (not Trumpeter).

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Black Brant

Branta nigrescens

Mar. 28 Salton Sea, Riverside Co. Calif.: 22 at Whitewater R. mouth – apparently regular here in spring.

Apr. 24 Salton Sea: 1 s. of Obsidian Butte

Apr. 25 Salton Sea: 1 (same spot) "

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Snow Goose

Chen caerulescens hyperborea

Jan. 3 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co., Calif: 1 im. on lake at Hope Ranch

Jan. 4 Santa Barbara area: 3 on golf course in Goleta with 3 Ross'.

Jan. 14 Havasu Nat. Wildlife Refuge, Mohave Co., Ariz: 700 Topock Farm

Feb. 5 Havasu NWR: 814 counted at Topcock Farm 1×1

Feb. 7 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 white-bellied Blue Goose among 2000 Snows.

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif.: 8 Whalen Ranch

Mar. 28 Desert Center, Riverside Co., Calif: 1 im. Tamarisk Lake

May 9 Salton Sea: 1 ad. near mouth of New River - presumably a cripple.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 2 ad. - Red Hill

Oct. 10 Barr Lake, Adams Co., Colo.: 1 - first arrival.

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Ross' Goose

Chen rossii

Jan. 4 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co, Calif.: 3 on golf course in Goleta with 3 Snows, present for weeks.

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif.: 121 – counted just SW of hdqts. at Salton Sea NWR – very large number for Salton Sea. Flight call is a low and nasal "wank"

Feb. 7 Salton Sea: 25 at Salton Sea NWR

Mar. 7 Honey Lake, Lassen Co. Calif.: 10 with Snow Geese on Fleming Unit

Oct. 20 Lake Henry, Crowley Co., Colo.: 1 with flock of 29 Snow Geese flew over our heads maybe 200 ft. up – we had a great look at it for a brief time – obviously smaller than Snows; shorter-necked; much shorter, stumpier bill – this was the most conspicuous difference. My attention was drawn to the flock to look for Ross' Goose when I heard the lower-pitched, muted call of the Ross' amongst the higher-pitched cackling of the Snows.

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Green-winged Teal

Anas crecca carolinensis

Feb. 22 Anacapa Is., Calif: 2 (1 pr.) flying along south shore of island.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 800, mainly at Wister Unit — already has arrived in numbers from north.

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Blue-winged Teal

Anas discors

Jan. 24 Colo. River, Imperial Co., Calif: 1♀ with pair of Cinnamons in Colo. River below Imperial Dam. Compared with ♀ Cinnamon — smaller overall body size; shorter, slimmer bill; more pronounced eyeline; grayer neck ~~and~~, sides, and back with (no brown tinges) more heavy scalloping; and whiter face overall (both were white at base of bill); It looked almost like a ♀ Green-winged Teal in proportions when compared to Cinnamon, as pointed out by Guy McCaskie.

Feb. 8 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif: 1♂ - San Diego R. Flood Control Channel

Mar. 28 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1♂ - Salton City.

Oct. 28 Chatfield Reservoir, Douglas Co., Colo.: 2♀ - slightly larger than GW Teal, much grayer than Cinnamons, conspicuous blue-wings in flight. Very late

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European Wigeon
Anas penelope

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif.: 1♂ on Whalen Ranch where it has been present at least since Jan. 3.

Mar. 14 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif.: 1♂ with Am. Wigeons on golf course pond, where it has been present since November.

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Wood Duck

Aix sponsa

Oct. 6 Tule Springs, Clark Co., Nevada: 1♂ + 1♀

Oct. 17 Bonny Res., Yuma Co., Colo: 3 (2♂, 1♀)

Oct. 20 Nee Reservoirs, Kiowa Co., Colo.: 1♂ - Nee So-Pah Res.

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Greater Scaup
Aythya marila

Jan. 24 Colorado River, Imperial Co., Calif: 7♂, 3♀ in artificial ponds on w. side of road below Imperial Dam. — studied for 20 minutes among 100 Lesser Scaup — (♂) definitely larger, very rounded heads, green heads, broad bill nails covering entire tip of bill (nail visible from side, not visible in Lesser Scaup), bills slightly deeper at the base — (♀) heads very round, darker brown heads than Lesser, larger brighter white face patch than Lesser. When flushed, all showed white wing stripes extending to primary tips. They all seemed to stick together, especially when they returned to the same part of the pond 15 min. later in a single species, tight flock.

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Barrow's Goldeneye
Bucephala islandica

Jan. 13 Davis Dam, Clark Co., Nevada : 10 ad. ♂♂, + 14 ♀♀/im. ♂ mixed in with large flock of Common Goldeneyes (200) below the dam – also moved to Arizona side of river.

Feb. 3 Davis Dam : 3 ad. ♂, 5 ♀♀.

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Harlequin Duck

Histrionicus histrionicus

Jan. 31 Morro Bay area, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.: 1♂ at San Simeon where they are apparently found every winter.

Aug. 11 Año Nuevo St. Res., San Mateo Co., Calif.: 2♀♀

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Oldsquaw
Clangula hyemalis

Jan. 13 Davis Dam, Clark Co., Nevada. : 5 – 2♂♂ (white crowned), 3♀♀ (brown crowned – incredible number for one spot anywhere in inland US – also moved to Arizona side of river.

Feb. 3 Davis Dam : 5 below the dam and 1♀ about 1 mi. below dam at Laughlin which was definetely a different bird.

Aug. 22 Silver Strand, San Diego Co. Calif : 1♀ – summering. Small duck, conspicuously smaller than Surf Scoters, with short stumpy bill; brown back, neck, and most of head except for whitish patch on face; white sides.

Sep. 30 Silver Stand : 1 – same bird, same spot.

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White-winged Scoter

Melanitta deglandi

Aug. 5 Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif : 2 ♂

Aug. 8 Pt. Reyes, Marin Co., Calif : 1 ♂

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Surf Scoter

Melanitta perspicillata

May 9 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif : 1 imm. ♂ at Salton City

June 6 Salton Sea : 3 ♀ Salton City

June 26 Salton Sea : 1 ♂ on sea adjacent to Wister Unit.

Aug. 5 Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co. Calif. : 10

Aug. 8 Pt. Reyes, Marin Co. Calif : 75

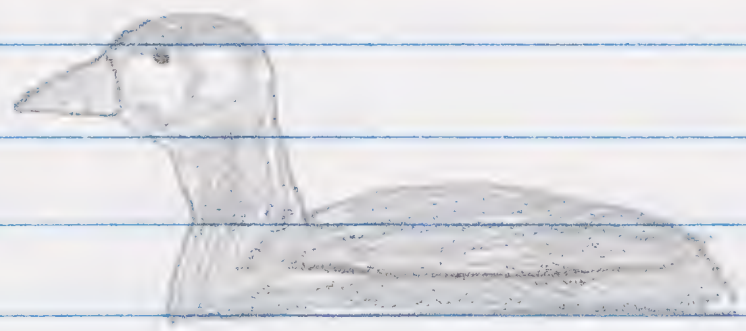
Aug. 11 Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co. Calif. : 30

Año Nuevo St. Res. San Mateo Co. : 8

Aug. 22 Silver Strand, San Diego Co. Calif : 20 - summering - at least 8 could fly.

Oct. 27 Sloan's Lake, Denver Co, Colo. : 1 ♀ - very rare migrant in Colo

Large, mostly blackish duck with heavy bill and two pale areas on face :



Bill had normal feathering - no feathering extending out on upper mandible as in White-winged Scoter.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Black Scoter

Melanitta nigra

Aug. 8 Pt. Reyes, Marin Co., Calif: 1 ♀ Fish Docks; uniform whitish-buff face with sharply contrasting dark crown and nape. Extremely rare in summer.

Oct. 12 Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe Co., Calif.: 3 ♂♂ - studied for nearly ½ hour. At first they were ¼ mile away, but still obvious Black Scoters. They then began to swim directly towards us and eventually came to within 75 yards. Although the three birds stayed together the entire time, they were at one point joined by a male and female Ruddy Duck, which they dwarfed (in addition to being much darker). The scoters were uniformly blackish-brown over most of the body plumage, but slightly darker on chest; the face however was completely pale, a pale buffy white. The paleness was uniform and extensive, not divided into two distinct patches as in White-winged or Surf Scoters. The all dark bill was not nearly as heavy or deep as the other two scoters, and was normally feathered as in other ducks [White-winged has feathering protruding onto bill, Surf has unfeathered portions protruding back into face]. Wings were uniform blackish when flapped - no white patches. The crown and nape were brownish-black, distinctly outlining the pale face. These birds were noticeably smaller than the other 2 scoters - not much bigger, if at all, from Mallard.

↑ drawing made at time of observation

All three birds were seen to dive occasionally, usually simultaneously.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Hooded Merganser

Mergus cucullatus

Jan. 13 Davis Dam, Clark Co., Nevada: 4♀♀ below the dam

Feb. 28 Patagonia Dam, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz: 3♀♀ eastern end of lake.

Oct. 28 Chatfield Reservoir, Douglas Co., Colo: 2 (♂ + ♀)

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Red-breasted Merganser

Mergus serrator

Mar. 27 Earp, San Bernadino Co., Calif. and Ariz: 2 ♂♂ with 8 ♂♂ Common Mergansers for comparison at Parker Dam – the Red-breasts were smaller with duller colored, less reddish, less sharply defined head.

Apr. 3 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif: 1♀ on Crespi Pond

Apr. 10 Earp: 2♂♂ – Parker Dam

May 22 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif: 1♀ – golf course pond

May 26 Furnace Creek Ranch: 1♀ (same bird)

May 28 Furnace Creek Ranch: 2♂♂ (1 same)

June 6 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 2♂♂ Salton City

Aug. 5 Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.: 1♀

Aug. 11 Moss Landing, Monterey Co., Calif.: 3♂♂

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 3♂♂ – Salton City

Salton Sea, Riverside Co.: 20♂♂ – Oasis D.Mp.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

White-tailed Kite

Elanus leucurus

Jan. 3 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbera Co., Calif.: 6

Jan. 4 Santa Barbara area: 5

Oxnard, Ventura Co.: 1

Jan. 31 Morro Bay area, San Luis Obispo Co.: 2

Feb. 1 Morro Bay: 1

Feb. 16 Newport Bay, Orange Co.: 2

Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif: 2

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Mississippi Kite
Ictinia mississippiensis

May 25 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co. Calif. : lad on golf course : extremely long, pointed wings and long square tail ; pearly gray underparts ; pearly gray head with darker eye-ring ; red iris ; square-headed, round-faced, marsh harrier head shape ; darker gray wings with pale gray leading edge and secondaries (not shown in Robbins, Peterson), dark tail without tail bands ; graceful flight

May 26 Furnace Creek Ranch : watched for 20+ minutes and photographed from about 50' away

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Sharp-shinned Hawk
Accipiter striatus

Jan. 17 Guevavi Ranch, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz: 1 im.

Apr. 21 East Mojave Desert, San Bernardino Co, Calif: 1 im. Ft. Piute

Apr. 27 E. Mojave: 1 im. Kelso

Apr. 30 E. Mojave: 1 ad. Ft. Piute.

Aug. 28 Clark Mtn, San Bernardino Co., Calif: 1 ad.

Sep. 25 Pt. Loma, San Diego Co, Calif: 3

Oct. 3 Malibu Lagoon, Los Angeles Co, Calif: 1

Oct. 6 Las Vegas Wash, Clark Co, Nev.: 1 ad. Sunset Park

Oct. 5 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co, Calif.: 1

Oct. 14 Waterton, Jefferson Co., Colo.: 1 ad.

Oct. 15 Crow Valley Park, Weld Co, Colo.: 1 im.

Oct. 12 Cherry Creek Res, Arapahoe Co, Colo.: 1 u.

Oct. 18 Bonny Res, Yuma Co, Colo.: 1 u

Oct. 19 Bonny Res.,: 1 ad.

Oct. 20 Two Buttes Res., Baca Co, Colo.: 1 u

Remsen, J.V. 1975

Cooper's Hawk

Accipiter cooperi

9 Jan E. Mohave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 1 ad, 1 im. Ft. Piute

14 Jan Havasu NWR, Mohave Co., Ariz: 1 im.

17 Jan. Tucson Sewage Plant, Pima Co., Ariz: 1 ad, 1 im.

21 Jan E. Mohave Desert: 1 im. Ft. Piute.

24 Jan Brock Res. Contr, Imperial Co.: 2

25 Jan Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 3

3 Feb E. Mojave Desert: 1 ad. Ft. Piute

4 Feb. E. Mojave: 1 Ft. Piute.

7 Feb Salton Sea: 1

9 Feb. San Diego area, San Diego Co.: 1 ad.

19 Feb E. Mojave: 1 im. Kelso, 1 u. Granite Mtns.

28 Feb. Sonoita Creek, Patagonia, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz: 1 imm.

13 Mar China Lake, Kern Co. Calif: 1

14 Mar Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif: 1 ad.

24 Mar E. Mojave: 1 ad. Kelso

27 Mar Earp, San Bernadino Co.: 1

1 Apr. Carmel Valley, Monterey Co: 1

10 Apr. Morongo Valley, San Bernadino Co: 1

25 Apr. Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co.: 1

27 Apr. E. Mojave: 1 im. Cedar Wash

30 Apr. E. Mojave: 1 im, 1 u Ft. Piute.

19 May E. Mojave: 1 im. Ft. Piute.

20 May E. Mojave: 1 ad. calling. Cauthen's Canyon, 5640 ft.

29 July E. Mojave: 1 u mouth Live Oak Cyn

30 July E. Mojave: 2 juv. Cauthen's Cyn - 1 screaming (for food?)

8 Aug. Pt. Reyes, Marin Co. Calif.: 1 u Tomales Bay St. Pk.

28 Aug. Clark Mtn, San Bernardino Co. Calif.: 1 im. White Firs

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Cooper's Hawk
Accipiter cooperi

Aug. 28	Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif: 4
Aug. 29	Furnace Creek Ranch: 2
	Indian Wells, Inyo Co., Calif: 1 im.
Sep. 5	Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif: 1 Carmel Rivermouth
Sep. 25	Pt. Loma, San Diego Co., Calif: 1
Sep. 29	E. Mojave: 1 Granite Pass
Oct. 19	Bonny Res., Yuma Co., Colo.: 1

Remsen, J.V 1976

Red-shouldered Hawk

Buteo lineatus

Jan. 31 Morro Bay area, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif: 1 n. of Morro Bay on Hwy. 1

Feb. 14 Monterey area, Monterey Co., Calif: 2 Robinson Cyn

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 Whalen Ranch

Feb. 21 Fairmount Park, Riverside Co., Calif.: 2 ad. - 1 bombing im. Red-tailed Hawk

Mar. 20 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif: 2 Mission Gorge

Mar. 21 Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co.: 1 Rancho Cuyamaca

Apr. 2 Monterey area: 1 Carmel Rivermouth

Apr. 10 Morongo Valley, San Bernading Co.: 1

Apr. 25 San Diego area, San Diego Co.: 2 ad on light poles along freeways.

June 27 Palomar St. Park, San Diego Co.: 2 ads, 1 juv.

Aug. 28 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co. Calif.: 1 im. - extremely rare but apparently regular e. of Sierras. First identified by screaming "Keer-Keer-Keer-Keer-Keer-Keer" call. Later seen well - Accipiter-like flight, banded rectangular tail, reddish tinge on wing-linings and upperwing coverts, larger than Cooper's.

Aug. 29 Furnace Creek Ranch: 1 - (same bird)

Scotty's Castle, Inyo Co., Calif: 1 - sub-ad. - That we would find two birds in Death Valley on the same weekend may indicate a regular migration route.

Sep. 5 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif: 1 im. on golf course at Pt. Pinos.

Sep. 9 Fairmount Park, Riverside Co., Calif.: 1 ad.

Sep. 14 Fairmount Park: 1

Sep. 17 South Coast Botanical Garden, Los Angeles Co., Calif: 1 im.

Sep. 19 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 im.

Sep. 25 Pt. Loma, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 - migrant

Sep. 26 Tijuana River Valley: 2 imm. - one carrying small snake.

Oct. 3 Tapia Park, Los Angles Co., Calif: 1 ad.

Remsen, J.V.
1976

Red-shouldered Hawk

Buteo lineatus

Oct. 4 Lake Tami, San Bernardino Co., Calif.: 1 im – extremely unusual in desert

Oct. 5 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif.: 3 imms – (2 together at once) – incredible number for such a rare species in desert

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Broad-winged Hawk
Buteo platypterus

May 25 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif. : 1 ad. on golf course — extremely rare in spring, particularly this late. : a small buteo with short, rounded wings and short, broad tail; tail conspicuously banded with broad dark and white bands; underparts barred reddish all the way to tarsi; underwings white with dark primary tips; upperparts and head brownish-gray

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Swainson's Hawk

Buteo swainsoni

Mar. 28 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif: 1 in field near Coachella. — light phase

Mar. 31 Grapevine, Kern Co., Calif: 1 on grassy hillys w. of pumping plant — dark phase — some paleness in wing-linings.

July 29 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif.: 1 light adult over disturbed open area in Joshua Tree woodland in western edge of Lanfair Valley, <1 mile where Andy Sanders saw one on July 19 — probably a nest in the area.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Rough-legged Hawk

Buteo lagopus

Mar. 6 Honey Lake, Lassen Co., Calif : 5

Mar. 7 Honey Lake : 4

Mar. 21 Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co., Calif. : 3 in extensive grasslands s. of L. Henshaw. Extremely rare in San Diego Co.

Oct. 19 Arikaree River, Yuma Co., Colo. : 1

Oct. 20 ~20 mi. s. of Lamar, Prowers Co., Colo. : 2

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Ferruginous Hawk
Buteo regalis

Jan. 24 Colorado River Valley, Imperial Co., Calif.: 1 in agricultural area near Bard

Feb. 7 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 Vendel Rd.

Mar. ~~Feb~~ 21 Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co., Calif: 3, including 1 dark phase, s. of Lake Henshow in extensive grassland. The dark phase bird, extremely rare in Calif, was a reddish brown on head, breast, and wing-linings; slaty gray-brown above with pale windows in primaries, whitish underwings (except linings) and tail; upper tail pale at base becoming brownish towards tip; typical long wings and strong flight of this species; breast browner than head; studied for 20+ minutes.

Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 - early and far south - whitish at bases of primaries from above (windows); mostly white underneath (except wrists), white tail with dark distal 1/3.

Oct. 7 ~1 mi. w. of Cove Fort, I-70, Millard Co., Utah: 1

Oct. 15 Milton Reservoir, Weld Co., Colo.: 1

Oct. 20 ~10 mi. S of Lamar, Prowers Co., Colo.: 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Harris' Hawk

Parabuteo unicinctus

Jan. 19

June 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif.: 2 adults seen at nest 3.0 miles north of Niland on Hwy 11 — e. side of road on other side of RR tracks. Nest is 15' up in mesquite - very exposed to sun and visible from highway. The birds are apparently incubating — no young could be seen and the adults were not bringing food. This is the first nest known from California for at least two decades - thought to be extirpated. How this particularly pair has escaped detection by birders on this heavily travelled highway is interesting. They were found on June 19 by Guy McCaskie. We watched the birds for about 10 minutes (through scope - fantastic full frame views - yellow cere and facial skin more conspicuous than shown by Robbins - Peterson (1961) OY) and then left for fear of disturbing the nest.

June 26 Salton Sea: 1 ad. sitting on the nest nr. Niland

July 12 Today I talked with someone at the Wister Waterfowl Management Unit who confirmed a rumor I heard on July 9: Wister personnel released a male and female Harris' Hawk at Wister Unit on 11 March 1976, unbanded. Thus the nearby nesting pair is accounted for almost certainly by this release, and we have no re-colonization there afterall.

Remson, J.V. 1975

Golden Eagle

Aquila chrysaetos

Jan. 4 Thousand Oaks, Ventura Co., Calif: 1 im. 5 mi. e. of Thousand Oaks

Jan. 6 Eastern Mohave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 1 ad. nr. Kelso

Jan. 7 E. Mohave Desert: 1 ad. Sagamore Cyn.

Jan. 9 Newberry Spgs, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 2 ad.

Jan. 28 E. Mojave Desert: 2 ad at Cima Dome

Feb. 4 E. Mojave Desert: 1 ad. Ft. Piute

Feb. 5 E. Mojave Desert: 1 ad. Piute Wash

Feb. 14 Monterey area, Monterey Co., Calif: 1 im. upper Robinson Cyn.

Feb. 17 E. Mojave Desert: 1 u. Colton Hills.

Feb. 18 E. Mojave Desert: 1 ad. Cedar Cyn.

Mar. 6 Honey Lake, Lassen Co. Calif: 2 im.

Mar. 15 Moreno Beach Rd, Riverside Co., Calif: 1 at Fwy 60

Mar. 16 E. Mojave Desert: 1 ad. Ft. Piute.

Mar. 21 Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 ad s. of L. Henshaw

Mar. 23 E. Mojave: 1 ad Marl Spg - attacked by 2 Com. Ravens

Mar. 24 E. Mojave: 2 ad Granite Mtns following each other closely in flight

Mar. 25 E. Mojave: 1 ad. Cove Spg.

Apr. 4 Jolon, Monterey Co.: 1 im

Apr. 8 E. Mojave: 1 e. end Granite Mtns

Apr. 25 Anza-Borrego, San Diego Co.: 1 in Juniper-chaparral w. of Anza-Borego; ~~1 in Cuyamac~~

Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co.: 1 ad.

Apr. 27 E. Mojave: 1 ad tending downy young on nest on s. facing cliff of Pinto Mtn.

Apr. 29 E. Mojave: 1 ad. New York Mt at 7240 ft.

Apr. 30 E. Mojave: 1 im. Ft. Piute

May 14 E. Mojave: 1 ad Piute Valley

May 16 E. Mojave: 1 ad Cima Dome

May 18 E. Mojave: 1 ad. Lime Oak Cyn.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Golden Eagle

Aquila chrysaetos

May 20 E. Mójave: 2 ads. eating jackrabbit Bathtub Spg; 1 ad above Coyote Spg

May 23 Deep Springs Valley, Inyo Co., Calif: 1 ad ~ 5 mi. w. of College

May 27 Hwy 3, ~5 mi. from Oasis Ranch in Calif, Esmeralda Co., Nevada: 1 ad.

July 18 E. Mójave: 1 u - Cedar Canyon

Aug. 28 Clark Mountain, San Bernardino Co., Calif.: 1 im. - cliffs above White Fir.

Sep. 29 E. Mójave: 1 im. - Granite Pass, 1 u - Mitchell Caverns

Oct. 5 Springdale, Nye Co., Nevada: 2; 1 ~ 14 mi N, and 1 ~ 7 mi N of town on Hwy 95

Oct. 15 nr. Barnesville, Weld Co., Colo.: 1 u.

Oct. 14 Waterton, Jefferson Co., Colo.: 1 u.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Bald Eagle

Haliaeetus leucocephalus

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif. : 1 im. with white tail at Unit 1 of Salton Sea NWR

Feb. 7 Salton Sea : same bird present at Unit 1

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif : 1 im. Whalen Pond

Mar. 6 Honey Lake, Lassen Co. Calif. : 1 ad. Fleming Unit

Oct. 17 Bonny Res., Yuma Co., Colo. : 1 ad.

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Osprey

Pandion haliaetus

Feb. 9 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif. : 1 La Jolla over ocean

Feb. 16 Santee Lakes, San Diego Co. : 1

Mar. 27 Blythe, Riverside Co., Calif : 1 n. of Blythe.

Apr. 25 Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co. : 1 going north along eastern crest of range.

Sep. 10 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif. : 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Northern Marsh Harrier

Circus cyaneus

Jan. 4 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co., Calif. 1 ♀

Jan. 14 Havasu NWR, Mohave Co., Ariz: 1♀, 1 ♀

Jan. 24 Colo. River Valley, Imperial Co., Calif. : 2 ♀

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co. : 6 ♀

Feb. 1 Morro Bay area, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif : 2 ♀

Feb. 7 Salton Sea : 6 ♀

Feb. 28 Sonoita, Ariz : 2 ♂

Mar. 3 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif. : 1 ♀ - Arrowhead Jnct. migrant → N

Mar. 6+7 Honey Lake, Lassen Co., Calif : 20, mostly ♀

Aug. 6 Oakland Airport, Alameda Co., Calif. : 1 ♀

Aug. 11 Año Nuevo St. Res. San Mateo Co., Calif. : 1♂, 1 ♀

Sep. 5 Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co., Calif : 1 ♀

Sep. 7 Salinas River Mouth : 2 ♀

Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif : 4 ♀

Sep. 26 Tijuana River Valley : 2 ♀

Oct. 9 Union Reservoir, Weld Co., Colo. : 1 ♀

Oct. 10 Barr Lake, Adams Co., Colo : 2 ♀

Oct. 12 Cherry Creek Res. Arapahoe Co., Colo. : 4 ♀

Oct. 15 Milton Res., Weld Co., Colo. : 1 ♀

Oct. 16 Red Lion Wildlife Area, Logan Co., Colo. : 4 ♀

Jumbo Res., Logan Co., Colo. : 2 ♀

Oct. 17 Bonny Res, Yuma Co., Colo. : 1 ♀

Oct. 18 Union Res : 1 ♀

Oct. 19 Bonny Res. : 1 ♀

Arikaree R., Yuma Co., Colo. : 1 ♀

Oct. 20 Two Buttes Res., Baca + Prowers Co., Colo. : 5 (4 ♀, 1 ♂)

Nee Reservoirs, Kiowa Co., Colo : 3 ♀

Remsen, J.V. 1976

		Northern Harrier *Circus cyaneus*
Oct. 20	Dye Res., Crowley Co., Colo	: 1♂
Oct. 24	Union Res.	: 1♂
Oct. 25	Barr Lake	: 4♂
Oct. 28	Chatfield Res	: 3♂

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Peregrine Falcon

Falco peregrinus

Aug. 5 Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co. Calif. : 1 - Morro Rock

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co. Calif: 1 - Anacapa Island

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Prairie Falcon

Falco mexicanus

Jan. 30 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif. : 1 on Granite Pass s. of Kelso on telpole in creosote area.

Feb. 2 29 Palms, San Bernadino Co., : 1 ~2 mi. w. of town on telpole in creosote.

Feb. 5 E. Mojave Desert : 1 Ford's Dry Lake

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif : 1 Whalen Ranch

Feb. 19 E. Mojave : 1 Granite Pass

Mar. 3 E. Mojave : 1 Homer

Mar. 4 E. Mojave : 1 Granite Pass

Mar. 6 Honey Lake, Lassen Co., Calif : 2

Mar. 15 Essex, San Bernadino Co., Calif : 1 ½ mi. e. of town

Mar. 17 Davis Dam, Clark Co., Nevada : 1

Mar. 19 E. Mojave : 1 Shadow Valley

Kern Rd., ~ 10 mi. e. of 29 Palms, San Bernadino Co. : 1

Mar. 21 Cuyamaca Mtns, San Diego Co., Calif : 1 s. of L. Henshaw in extensive grassland

Mar. 25 E. Mojave : 1 Kelso Mtns

Apr. 13 Kern Rd : same spot as Mar. 19 - 1

May 13 E. Mojave : 1 Piute Valley

May 14 E. Mojave : 1 Granite Pass

May 21 E. Mojave : 1 nr. Kelso Dunes

May 22 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif : 2 (pair)

May 29 Furnace Creek Ranch : 1

July 29 E. Mojave : 1 Lanfair Valley

Sep. 26 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co. Calif : 1 - harassed by cloud of Starlings overhead.

Sep. 29 E. Mojave : 1 Granite Pass, 1 Kelso Dunes

Oct. 6 Tule Springs, Clark Co., Nevada : 1

Oct. 10 Barr Lake, Adams Co., Colo. : 1

Oct. 17 Bonny Res., Yuma Co., Colo. : 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Prairie Falcon

Falco mexicanus

Oct. 20 Nee Reservoirs, Kiowa Co., Colo. : 1

Oct. 25 Barr Lake : 1

Oct. 28 Chatfield Reservoir, Douglas Co., Colo. : 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Merlin

Falco columbarius

Mar. ~~Ap~~ 31 Grapevine, Kern Co. Calif : 1 on road to Edmundson Pumping Plant seen with fresh-caught, still alive Cliff Swallow. This was an extremely pale bird, with back color and crown pale brown as in a Prairie Falcon.

Oct. 20 Two Buttes Reservoir, Prowers Co. Colo. : 1.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Sandhill Crane

Grus canadensis

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif. : 91 counted in field on Harris road e. of Brawley. In flight, the wingbeat is distinctive – they seem to hold their wings paused on the peak of the upstroke and seem to give them an extra hard snap at the peak of the downstroke

Mar 6+7 Honey Lake, Lassen Co., Calif. : 150+ Fleming Unit

Oct. 15 Pawnee Natl. Grasslands, Weld Co., Colo. : 1400 counted as they flew south over the grasslands in flocks as large as 400.

Oct. 16 Jumbo Res., Sedgwick Co., Colo. : 4

Prewitt Res., Washington Co., Colo. : 40

Oct. 20 Lake Henry, Crowley Co., Colo. : 600

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Clapper Rail

Rallus longirostris

June 26 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 Wister Unit

Apr. 25 Salton Sea: 2 Unit 1, Salton Sea NWR

June 6 Salton Sea: 1 Wister Unit

July 14 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif: 3 - dense cattails at inland edge of Whitewater Delta.

July 24 Salton Sea, Riverside Co.: 1 h.o. Whitewater Delta.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 1 Wister Unit, 1 Unit 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Common Gallinule

Gallinula chloropus

Apr. 1 Monterey area, Monterey Co. Calif: 1 on Crespi Pond

Apr. 3 Monterey: 1 on Crespi Pond. (same bird)

May 22 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif: 1 on golf course pond – rare e. of Sierras

May 27 Furnace Creek Ranch: 1 (same bird)

May 28 Furnace Creek Ranch: 1 (")

June 13 Furnace Creek Ranch: 2 together on golf course – north pond.

Aug. 28 Furnace Creek Ranch: 1

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Snowy Plover
Charadrius alexandrinus

May 22 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif. : 1 on sewage ponds near SW corner of golf course — unusual inland away from Salton Sea

July 18 Baker, San Bernardino Co., Calif : 1 - pond.

Aug. 28 Baker : 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Semipalmated Plover

Charadrius semipalmatus

Feb. 7 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif. : 1 at Salton City – rare in winter at Salton Sea.

Mar. 28 Salton Sea : 3 at Salton City.

Apr. 24 Salton Sea : 10 near Red Hill

Apr. 25 Salton Sea : 10 "

May 9 Salton Sea : 25 at various points around Sea, including Riverside Co.

June 6 Salton Sea : 4 Unit 1, 2 Salton City – late or summering

July 14 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif : 1 Whitewater Delta

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co. : 2

Aug. 25 Blythe, Riverside Co., Calif (and Ariz. side) : 1 flying down Colo. River

Oct. 16 Jumbo Reservoir, Sedgwick Co., Colo : 1 – very late

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

American Golden Plover

Pluvialis dominica

Oct. 23 Barr Lake, Adams Co, Colo.: 1 – *dominica* race – with a flock of Black-bellieds for comparison – smaller body size, slimmer bill, darker crown and back, buffier breast, no black armpits in flight, dark tail, wingstripe much less conspicuous than Black-belied.

Oct. 25 Barr Lake: 1 (same bird)

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Bar-tailed Godwit

Limosa lapponica

Feb. 16 Marina del Rey, Los Angeles Co., Calif: 1 at least one mile up from ocean on a cement river (!) -- a disgusting place for such a fantastic bird. First found on about Feb. 11. The bird was found roosting with Marbleds and Willets today on the cement bank of the "river" at high tide. The most conspicuous thing about the bird was its short legs (dark greenish-gray), much shorter than those of the Marbleds (body size not a proportionately small) and shorter than Willets. This short-leggedness was not apparent on the 10-26-73 bird at Bolinas Lagoon, Marin Co. This bird also did not have the dark, striped back of the Bolinas bird, but was rusty brown with 8-10 gray feathers, apparently old and on the way out; also the supercilary was not conspicuous as in the Bolinas bird; also the rump was almost solid grayish — the whitish background to the tail area did not begin until the upper tail coverts; which were barred blackish (on white) as was the tail; the underparts and underwings were whitish with a faint sandy tinge; the bill was dark-tipped and pink-based and upturned. 4th record for Calif.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Short-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus griseus

Aug. 28 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co. Calif. 1 with Long-billed on golf course - "too-too-too" flight call, noticeably shorter bill than Long-billed. Extremely rare inland in US but apparently somewhat regular in early fall at Furnace Creek.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Solitary Sandpiper
Tringa solitaria

Aug. 11 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif.: 1 on Crespi Pond (reported 4 days earlier)

Aug. 28 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif.: 1

Sep. 10 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif.: 1

Sep. 13 Harbor Lake, Los Angeles Co., Calif.: 1

Sep. 17 Harbor Lake: 1

Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley: 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Lesser Yellowlegs

Tringa flavipes

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 6 counted at various points around edge of Sea — high number for winter (only 4 Greaters found).

Feb. 7 Salton Sea: 1 Red Hill.

Apr. 25 Salton Sea: 1 s. of Obsidian Butte.

May 9 Salton Sea: 2 at Salton City

Aug. 11 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif.: 2 at Carmel River Mouth.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea: 15 Unit 1

Aug. 25 Blythe, Riverside Co., Calif (+ Ariz side): 5 flying downstream on Colo. River

Sep. 5 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif.: 1 Crespi Pond

Sep. 10 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif.: 2

Oct. 6 Las Vegas Wash, Clark Co., Nevada: 1

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Wandering Tattler

Heteroscelus incanus

Aug. 6 Oakland Airport, Alameda Co. Calif : 2 flying overhead - "toe-tee-tee" loud clear calls; solid gray wings ~~and~~, rump, and tail.

Aug. 18 Anacapa Island, Ventura Co. Calif. : 5- this species seems disproportionately common on these offshore islands relative to the mainland.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Stilt Sandpiper

Micropalama himantopus

Feb. 7 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 4 at Unit 1 – rare but regular here in winter. – NBP

Apr. 24 Salton Sea: 3 at Unit 1 – BP

Apr. 25 Salton Sea: 6 "

May 9 Salton Sea: 20 at Unit 1; 10 Wister

Aug. 21 Salton Sea: 30 Unit 1

Sept. 4 Golden Gate Nat. Rec. Area, Marin Co., Calif.: 1 – Non-breed-plum. – Rodeo Lagoon – long yellowish legs, long thick bill like dowitcher, slender shape, whitish tail

Oct. 16 Red Lion Wildlife Area, Logan Co., Colo.: 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Pectoral Sandpiper
Calidris melanotos

Sep. 5 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif : 1 Crespi Pond
Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co. Calif. : 1
Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif. : 1 19th St. ditch
Oct. 3 McGrath St. Beach, Ventura Co., Calif. : 9
Oct. 6 Logandale, Clark Co., Nevada : 1

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Baird's Sandpiper
Calidris bairdii

Aug. 11 Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co., Calif. : 1 at mouth of creek where it had been reported several days earlier: very buffy head and breast, prominent white edging on back feathers giving scaly appearance, very long wings protruding past tail, definitely larger than nearby least sandpiper

Año Nuevo St. Res., San Mateo Co : 3

Aug. 28 Baker, San Bernardino Co., Calif. : 1

Sep. 4 Golden Gate Nat. Rec. Area, Marin Co., Calif. : 3

Sep. 5 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif. : 3 Carmel Rivermouth

Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co., Calif. : 7 counted together

Sep. 7 Salinas River Mouth : 3

Sep. 30 Silver Strand, San Diego Co., Calif. : 1 - late

Oct. 3 McGrath St. Beach, Ventura Co., Calif : 4 - "

Oct. 6 Logandale, Clark Co., Nevada : 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Dunlin

Calidris alpina

Sep. 5 Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co., Calif: 1 with some bladdish still on belly - very early arrival. Wing injured as if shot.

Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif.: 1 - first fall arrival.

Sep. 30 Silver Strand, San Diego Co., Calif.: 10 - "

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Semipalmated Sandpiper
Calidris pusilla

June 6 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif.: I studied for 40 minutes with 5 Western Sandpipers at Unit 1. Next to the Westerns, it appeared slightly but noticeably smaller in body size and stature; its bill was very conspicuously shorter, perhaps less than 2/3 length of the shortest Western present, and more even in width, totally lacking the tapered tip of the Westerns. It could be distinguished by bill length from 300 yds away with a telescope. The head (rounder than Westerns) and face were whiter than the Westerns'; the face was mostly pale with an indistinct eyeline — those of the Westerns were much dirtier. The crown was less conspicuous and extensive than Westerns and was grayish, not brownish. The throat and chest were also cleaner than the Westerns' — mostly whitish with a little dusky streaking on the sides of the upper breast making an incomplete collar across the chest. The upperparts were somewhat scaly in appearance — each feather seemed to be brownish-gray edged with very pale gray. The backs of the Westerns were much browner (two had noticeable rusty in scapulars) and less scaly. Feeding behaviors were also different — the Semipalmated never once in 40 minutes was seen to make more than two jabs in the same spot — 95% of its feeding motions were single pecks at the surface, often to either side of the bird rather than directly in front of it — the Westerns consistently probed and jabbed in one spot and their single pecks were usually directly in front of their line of movement. This consistent difference made the Semipalmated discernable at 100 yds with naked eye. The birds were studied from as close as 60 ft with spotting scope. No call notes could be heard because of the racket from alarmed Stilts and Avocets. This individual's bill was so short that it must have been at the extreme short end of individual variation

Semipalmated

Western

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Sanderling

Calidris alba

Feb. 7 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif : 3 at Salton City – very rare in winter at Salton Sea.

Mar. 28 Salton Sea : 4 at Salton City.

May 1 Salton Sea : 10 Salton City

June 6 Salton Sea : 4 Unit 1 – late or summering

Aug. 21 Salton Sea : 3 Wister Unit

Oct. 20 Cheraw Lake, Otero Co. Colo : 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Red Phalarope

Phalaropus fulicarius

Feb. 13 Monterey Bay, Monterey Co., Calif: 2 singles off Pt. Pinos — unusual in Feb.

Feb. 22 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co., Calif.: 1 sw of Anacapa Is

Anacapa Island, Calif: 1 in kelp beds near shore

Apr. 4 Monterey Bay: 30 - boat trip - NBP or beginning to molt

May 1 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif: 100 - 2 in full BP.

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip: 150 - none in full BP.

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is., Los Angeles Co., Calif: 8 (2 BP).

Sep. 5 Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co., Calif: 1

Sep. 7 Salinas River Mouth: 2

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip: 4

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip: 7

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

South Polar Skua

Catharacta maccormickii

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is. Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co., Calif : 2 – extremely unusual in June. Both individuals showed lots of contrasting white in primaries – molt?

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Pomarine Jaeger

Stercorarius pomarinus

Feb. 22 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co., Calif: 7 (incl. one dark phase ad.)

Apr. 4 Monterey Bay, Monterey Co., Calif: 5 (incl. one dark phase ad).

May 1 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif: ~~[illegible]~~ 20

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip: 50

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is., Los Angeles Co., Calif: 5 ads.

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co., Calif: 1 ad. between Ventura and Anacapa

Sep. 7 Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co., Calif: 1 im. – unusual so close to shore. Very heavy-bodied

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip: 6

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip: 15

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Parasitic Jaeger

Stercorarius parasiticus

Mar. 1 La Jolla, San Diego Co., Calif : 16 imms. counted from shore in violent storm — an incredible number for March. As many as three were seen at one time. All birds were (except one all dark bird) white bellied imms, many with 2-3 inch protruding short, pointed ~~tail~~ central rectrices; very little, if any, white could be seen in the primaries; all had very long, narrow, pointed wings, much narrower and more pointed than Pomarines, and looked slim-bodied and dainty.

Feb. ~~22~~ 8 San Diego area, San Diego Co. : 1 seen from shore at La Jolla from same spot as Mar. 1 birds

Apr. 25 San Diego : 1 im., 1 ad. from shore at La Jolla.

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif : 6, all 1-2 mi off La Jolla.

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co., Calif. : 4 (1 ad.) ~ 10 mi. SW of Anacapa Is. — very unusual to see this species this far from shore. The adult had ~ 2 inch long, very pointed central tail feathers and the other three were same body size and proportions — slim-bodied and thin-winged with more buoyant flight than Pomarines. Seemed too large to be Long-tailed.

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip : 2

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip : 5

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Long-tailed Jaeger

Stercorarius longicaudus

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif: 3 imms – I.D. by slim bill, small size

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip: 1 im. – only two primary shafts white (seen well), bill very slim and short. This bird had conspicuously barred flanks and undertail coverts as did at least 2 of the birds on Sep. 11.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Glaucous-winged Gull

Larus glaucescens

Feb. 3 Davis Dam, Clark Co., Nev and Mohave Co., Ariz. : 1 im., probably a 2nd-yr bird, with gull flock below the dam — no black in wing tips — pale buffy; pink legs; noticeably larger than nearby California and Ring-billed Gulls; mantle gray; wings mostly pale brown; bill pale with dark tip, dark in an ill-defined large spot; head and breast mostly white; belly with some brownish. Extremely unusual inland.

Aug. 8 Pt. Reyes, Marin Co., Calif : 1 ad. - Limantour - summering

Aug. 11 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif : 1 im. - Carmel R. mouth

Moss Landing, Monterey Co., Calif. : 1 im.

Sep. 3 Pt. Reyes : 1 - 2nd-yr.

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Glaucous Gull

Larus hyperboreus

Feb. 7 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 worn first-yr bird at Red Hill Landing — a very white gull, but when preening showed buffy bases to feathers and in flight had lots of buffy barring in tail and barred undertail coverts; extremely large bird, dwarfing Herring Gulls standing next to it, especially in overall body volume and neck size; pink bill with sharply defined black tip. Only 3-4 previous county records.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Yellow-footed Gull

Larus livens

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co, Calif: 1 ~~second-yr~~ first-yr. bird at Red Hill — extremely unusual in winter — extremely bulbous bill tip.

Feb. 7 Salton Sea: 1 second-yr. bird at Salton City — very blackish wings (like Great Black-backed), pink bill with dark tip, yellow legs, black band on white tail. (thus similar to third-yr. *Larus occidentalis* but with yellow legs, and more two-toned bill — third-yr *occidentalis* seldom has distinctly two-toned bill effect -).

May 9 Salton Sea: 1 first-yr bird at Niland Boat Landing — looked like 2nd yr. Western Gull with very dark wings and large, dark-tipped bill, but had yellow legs. Dwarfed nearby Californias and Ring-billeds. Perhaps first May record for Salton Sea.

June 26 Salton Sea: 1 ad. nr. Wister Unit

July 14 Salton Sea, Riverside Co. Calif: 1 juv. at Whitewater Delta

Aug. 21 Salton Sea: 25

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Thayer's Gull
Larus thayeri

Jan. 3 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co., Calif. : 1 first yr im. – late at Hope Ranch

Feb. 7 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif. : 1 first-yr at Salton City – white edgings to buffy primaries evident. Newly as small as Ring-billed Gull. – same size as California.

Feb. 8 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif : 25+ at Otay Valley pig farm.

Feb. 14 Monterey area, Monterey Co., Calif. : 1 ad.

Feb. 15 Monterey Bay : 1 ad, 1 first-yr

Feb. 16 Newport Bay, Orange Co. : 2 first-yr

Feb. 15 Moss Landing, Monterey Co. : 2 first-yr

Feb. 21 Fairmount Park, Riverside Co. : 1 – first-yr.

Feb. 22 Channel Islands Boat trip, Ventura Co. Calif : 2 first-yrs. behind our boat in Santa Barbara channel

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Mew Gull

Larus canus

Jan. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 first-yr bird at Red Hill — smaller than Ring-billeds standing next to it and had all brownish underparts and very small, short bill.

Apr. 4 Monterey area, Monterey Co., Calif: 2 first-yr — only birds seen all weekend — very scarce already.

Apr. 25 San Diego, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 very worn first-yr. bird at near mouth of San Diego River — very late.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Bonaparte's Gull

Larus philadelphia

Jan. 13 Davis Dam, Clark Co., Nev. and Mohave Co., Ariz : 1 imm.

Feb. 3 Davis Dam : 1 imm.

Apr. 4 Monterey Bay, Monterey Co., Calif : 100+ on boat trip – many with dark head,

San Antonio Res., Monterey Co : 30 – unusual inland

Apr. 24 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif : 2 near Red Hill

Apr. 25 Salton Sea : 1 nr. Obsidian Butte.

May 9 Salton Sea : 40 (Salton City, Niland Boat Landing

Salton Sea, Riverside Co. : 20 (Whitewater)

July 24 Salton Sea, Riverside Co. : 1 sick imm, 1 dead imm. Whitewater Delta

Aug. 11 Monterey, Monterey Co. Calif. : 1 im – Carmel R. mouth.

Sep. 7 Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co. Calif : 1 ad.

Oct. 19 Bonny Reservoir, Yuma Co., Colo. : 1 ad.

Oct. 24 Union Reservoir, Weld Co., Colo : 4 ads, 1 imm.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Franklin's Gull

Larus pipixcan

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is., Los Angeles Co., Calif : 2 ads. following boat to shore of Santa Barbara Island

May 9 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif : 1 ad. in full breeding plumage was followed all the way into Imperial Co. as it flew south along the shore, covering 15 mi.+

July 4 Willcox Playa, Cochise Co., Ariz : 1 im.

Oct. 6 Logandale, Clark Co., Nevada : 2 im.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Heermann's Gull

Larus heermanni

Jan. 3 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co., Calif.: adults mostly have all white heads by this date.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Black-legged Kittiwake

Rissa tridactyla

Feb. 15 Monterey Bay, Monterey Co, Calif: 50 (100% adults)

Feb. 22 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co., Calif.: 150 (98% adults)

Feb. 8 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif: 2 seen from shore at La Jolla

Mar. 1 La Jolla, San Diego Co.: 180 counted from shore at La Jolla – a spectacular number for so far south. There was a constant parade of birds moving south against the wind, some moving right along the beach. 90%+ were adults.

Mar. 20 San Diego area, San Diego Co.: 25+ seen at various points, including one dead ad. in Tijuana R. Valley ~3 mi. inland. Invasion.

Apr. 4 Monterey Bay: 40 on boat trip (3 imms).

Apr. 25 San Diego: ~~20~~ 30 various points on coast.

May 1 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co.: 5

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip: 20

June 3 Ventura Marina, Ventura Co., Calif: 50

Ventura → Santa Barbara Is., Ventura + LA Cos., Calif: 15

Aug. 5 Pt. Lobos, Monterey Co., Calif.: 12

Aug. 11 Monterey, Monterey Co., Calif: 5 Pt. Pinos, 1 Carmel River Mouth,

Aug. 18 Ventura Marina: 5

Oct. 2 Malibu Lagoon, Los Angeles Co., Calif: 2

Oct. 3 Malibu Lagoon: 2

McGrath St. Beach, Ventura Co., Calif: 2

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Sabine's Gull
Xema sabini

May 1 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif.: 8

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip: 35

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is, Ventura Co. Calif: 20

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip: 3

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip: 4

Oct. 6 Logandale, Clark Co., Nevada: 1 im. watched for 30 minutes sitting on water or flying back and forth near dam. Third record for Nevada.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Caspian Tern

Hydroprogne caspia

Feb. 1 Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif: 1 at south end of Morro Bay.

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co. Calif: 1200 - huge numbers, but probably normal from this time of year. They must be post-breeding wanderers from Gulf of California

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Common Tern

Sterna hirundo

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif: 100+ 1-2 mi off La Jolla. These birds have a distinct grayish cast to the throat, breast, and belly, contrasting with the white undertail coverts, uppertail, and chin — this grayish cast is not noted in field guides. With Forster's in flight, Commons look shorter tailed and less graceful. The only call given was a high-pitched "Kip".

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co. Calif: 1 ad. Salton City.

Sep. 5 Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co. Calif: 1 im.

Sep. 7 Salinas River Mouth: 35, in three flocks, arriving from ocean, then bathing, and leaving

Sep. 13 Harbor Lake, Los Angeles Co., Calif.: 2 - rare on fresh water

Sep. 17 Harbor Lake: 1 im.

Oct. 2 Malibu Lagoon, Los Angles Co. Calif: 1 im.

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Arctic Tern

Sterna paradisaea

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is. Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co., Calif : 1 im. (sub-ad.) — very seldom seen in spring : very slim dainty shape with small head, short bill, no neck in front of wings, very long graceful tail — different shape from chunkier Common Tern ; solid blackish nape, connecting eyes ; crown and underparts clean white ; ~~wings~~ mantle and upperwing dark gray with extreme tips of primaries with sharply defined black tips.

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co. Calif : 19 between 5 and 20 mi. SW of Anacapa. (8 ads). — same field marks as on June 3, plus we saw 8 birds sitting on kelp at close range, enabling us to see their extremely short legs.

Sep. 5 Monterey, Monterey Co. Calif. : 3 ads. flew in off ocean, plunged into the river, bathed for a few secs, and then flew back out over the ocean. No neck, round head, very short bill, very long wings and tail, very thin black line sharply drawn across undersides of primary tips.

Sep. 7 Salinas River Mouth, Monterey Co. Calif : 5 in flock of 15 Common Terns — good comparisor.

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co. Calif : 330 - large #

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip : 79

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Black Tern

Chlidonias niger

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif. : 2 in breeding plumage 50 miles offshore going north! Extremely unusual on coast, much less far off shore. Seen well as they flew past the bow of the boat.

May 22 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif. : 1 - locally rare

May 25 Furnace Creek Ranch : 1

Sep. 13 Harbor Lake, Los Angeles Co., Calif. : 1

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Black Skimmer

Rynchops nigra

Mar. 20 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 at salt works in Imperial Beach where it has been present for at least one week

May 9 Salton Sea, Riverside Co., Calif.: 12 counted near mouth of Whitewater River.

June 6 Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 7 on gravel dike between New River and Lack Rd — two may have been incubating eggs.

June 26 Salton Sea: 1 on same dike.

July 14 Salton Sea, Riverside Co.: 3 — Whitewater Delta

July 24 Salton Sea, Riverside Co.: 2 — "

Aug. 21 Salton Sea, Imperial Co.: 90 — 80 at Wister Unit alone.

Sep. 30 Silver Strand, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 — salt ponds at Imperial Beach where they nested this summer for the first time (fide Coppers).

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Xantus' Murrelet

Endomychura hypoleuca

Feb. 15 Monterey Bay, Monterey Co., Calif: 3 together on water not too far off Pt. Piños. Seen well from the boat from as close as 100' — clean white below, uniform blackish above, long thin dark bill, whitish underwings in flight. They could be heard calling on the water — a high-pitched chattering

Feb. 22 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co., Calif: 2 together SW of Anacapa Is.

Apr. 4 Monterey Bay: 4 (2, 1, 1) on boat trip — one not particularly far (~ 2 mi.) off Cannery Row. Extremely rare in spring. Two were seen only 50 ft. from the boat — solid dark above, clear white below, long dark bill.

May 1 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif.: 6 (3 pairs)

May 8 San Diego Boat Trip: 12 (6 pairs)

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Is., Los Angeles Co., Calif: 8

Santa Barbara Is., Santa Barbara Co., Calif: 1 sitting on nest under board under picnic table in extremely heavily-used-by-humans area.

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co., Calif.: 3 solitary birds SW of Anacapa Island (1 *hypoleuca*)

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip: 7 (all *hypoleuca*)

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip: 1 (*hypoleuca*)

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Craveri's Murrelet

Endomychura craveri

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Los Angeles Co., Calif. : 1 seen well 40' from boat in great light. We had gotten a fantastic view of a Xantus' earlier and this was immediately recognized as different – it was blackish, not grayish, definitely darker on upperparts; the dividing line between the white and dark on the neck and face was sharper and the dark extended further below the eye; there was a sharp, prominent projection of blackish from shoulder into breast which was much less prominent and much shorter in Xantus; the sides and flanks were blackish to the waterline, not whitish or mottled. We did not see the underwings in flight on our side of the boat; it dove and took off on the other side of the boat – whitish was seen on the underwings but its extent was disputed by those who saw it.

Aug. 26 Examination of live mounts of Xantus' and Craveri's in the San Bernardino Co. Museum leaves no doubt in my mind the bird was Craveri's.

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co., Calif. : 5

Sep. 18 San Diego Boat Trip : 18 positively identified plus 29 unidentified murrelets which were probably this species since we saw only 1 Xantus' all day.

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Ancient Murrelet

Synthliboramphus antiquum

June 3 Ventura → Santa Barbara Island Boat Trip, Ventura Co., Calif : 1 NBP about 4 mi. from shore about 10 mi. s. of Ventura Marina — seen only by myself, McCaskie, Garrett, and Bevier as it went past the rear end of the boat. The solid black head contrasting with and sharply set off from the paler, grayish upperparts, the black throat, and the gleaming white underparts were very apparent as it flew past. Very rare this far south any time of year and extremely unusual anywhere in Calif. in summer.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

White-winged Dove

Zenaida asiatica

Apr. 21 Fort Mohave, Clark Co., Nevada : 5 in relict cottonwood stand

May 6 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernardino Co., Calif : 1 at Ft. Piute in riparian woodland - very rare on high desert.

May 7 E. Mojave : 2 at ~~Caliz~~ Cadiz

May 12 E. Mojave : 3 at Kelso in corral.

May 15 E. Mojave : 1 " " . Possibly different individual from those on May 12 since Kelso was checked thoroughly May 14.

May 17 E. Mojave : 1 at Kelso in corral - probably same bird as May 15.

May 19 E. Mojave : 1 at Kelso ; 1 at Fort Piute.

Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif. : 1 - unusual on coast.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Mourning Dove Feeding Data
E. Mojave Desert

Distance to nearest — in ft

Date	elev	Loc	gr	rock	ann	bush	LATR	ACGR	Sage	Yuba	Yusc	YUBR	Oquinta	JUN	PINYON
14 Apr.	4960	Cima Dome	0	100	.5	20	–	–	–	75	–	20	30	–	–
			0	100	.5	30	–	–	–	75	–	20	30	–	–
27 Apr			0	–	5	40	–	–	–	100	–	25	50	–	–
			0	–	8	40	–	–	–	100	–	25	50	–	–

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Inca Dove

Scardafella inca

Mar. 27 Earp, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 15. Pair with recently fledged young at Wheel-r-Inn Trailer Ct. and 12 at River View Trailer Court.

Blythe, Riverside Co., Calif: 1 at Lost Lake, 1 at Mayflower County Park.

Apr. 10 Earp: 3 at River View Trailer Court

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Coccyzus americanus

June 13 Furnace Creek Ranch, Inyo Co., Calif: 1 seen several times in tamarisk-mesquite row along north edge of golf course — pale lower mandible, reddish primaries, no red eye-ring — definitely not Black-billed.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Common Screech-Owl

Otus asio

Jan. 3 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co., Calif.: 1 h.o. 0400 oaks in Hope Ranch residential area.

Jan. 24 Colorado River Valley, Imperial Co., Calif: 1 h.o. in mesquite forest at Laguna Dam.

Apr. 10 Needles, San Bernardino Co., Calif: 1 h.o. in mesquite woodland with scattered cottonwoods ~10 mi. n. of Needles

Apr. 21 Fort Mohave, Clark Co., Nevada: 2 h.o. in mesquite woodland with small grove of cottonwoods.

Apr. 25 Palomar Mtn. San Diego Co., Calif.: 1 h.o.

4 Aug. Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif: 1 h.o. Cerro Alto campground

Oct. 16 Tamarack Ranch, Logan Co. Colo.: 1 h.o. - responded to imitations at 0830

Oct. 19 Bonny Reservoir, Yuma Co. Colo.: 2 h.o. - responded to imitations at 1745 while sun still shining.

LACA.b
Wood Nails
Wood Thush

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Flammulated Owl

Otus flammeolus

May 15 Clark Mountain, San Bernardino Co., Calif.: 1 h.o. – hooting consistently for 20 min. or more ~0500. – mixture of single and double hoots. Would not respond to imitation. Upper slopes of white fir area.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Spotted Owl

Strix occidentalis

Apr. 25 Palomar Mtn., San Diego Co., Calif.: Pair in pine canyon attracted in to imitations. The four-noted "ow, ow-ow, oooowww" call was given several times in addition to the series of "ow" notes.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Northern Pygmy-Owl

Glaucidium gnoma

Jan. 3 Santa Barbara area, Santa Barbara Co., Calif: 1 attracted in to imitations at 0700 at Hinneiman Ranch and watched from as close as 15' for fantastic views. Introduced each series of toots with a, Otus-like rapid quavering, trill.

Feb. 14 Monterey area, Monterey Co., Calif.: 2 h.o. Robinson Cyn.

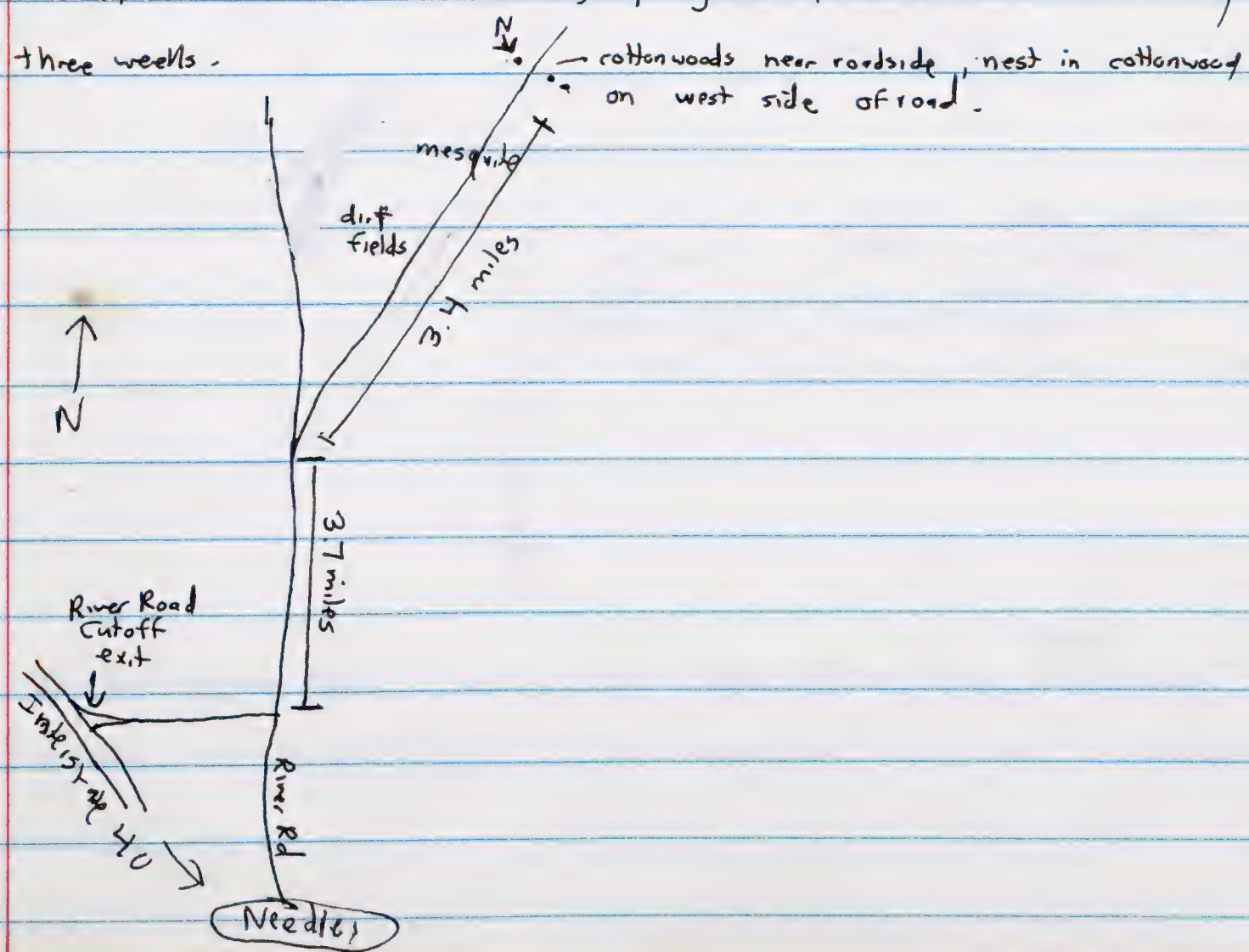
Apr. 25 Palomar Mtn., San Diego Co., Calif: 1 h.o.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Elf Owl

Micrathene whitneyi

Apr. 10 Needles, San Bernadino Co., Calif: We found an active nest about 10 miles n. of Needles in Colo. River Valley. The habitat was dense mesquite forest with about three scattered, scraggly cottonwoods, the only cottonwoods still standing in the area; At least one and perhaps two birds called loudly from inside the nest hole 20' up in a dead cottonwood. Another bird came and delivered what was almost certainly a food item to the occupant(s) of the hole. The head of one bird was seen beautifully in the flashlight as it repeatedly poked its head out the hole. The bird was probably an adult and the other member of the pair was bringing food to it. However, the parmeters claimed there were two birds in the hole, indicating well-developed nestlings — the persistent calling, was similar to that recorded on the Peterson tapes and I would doubt that a nestling would be capable of adult-like calls. Also, they are not known to get to Calif. before late March, and it is (impossible) that large young would be present after only three weeks.

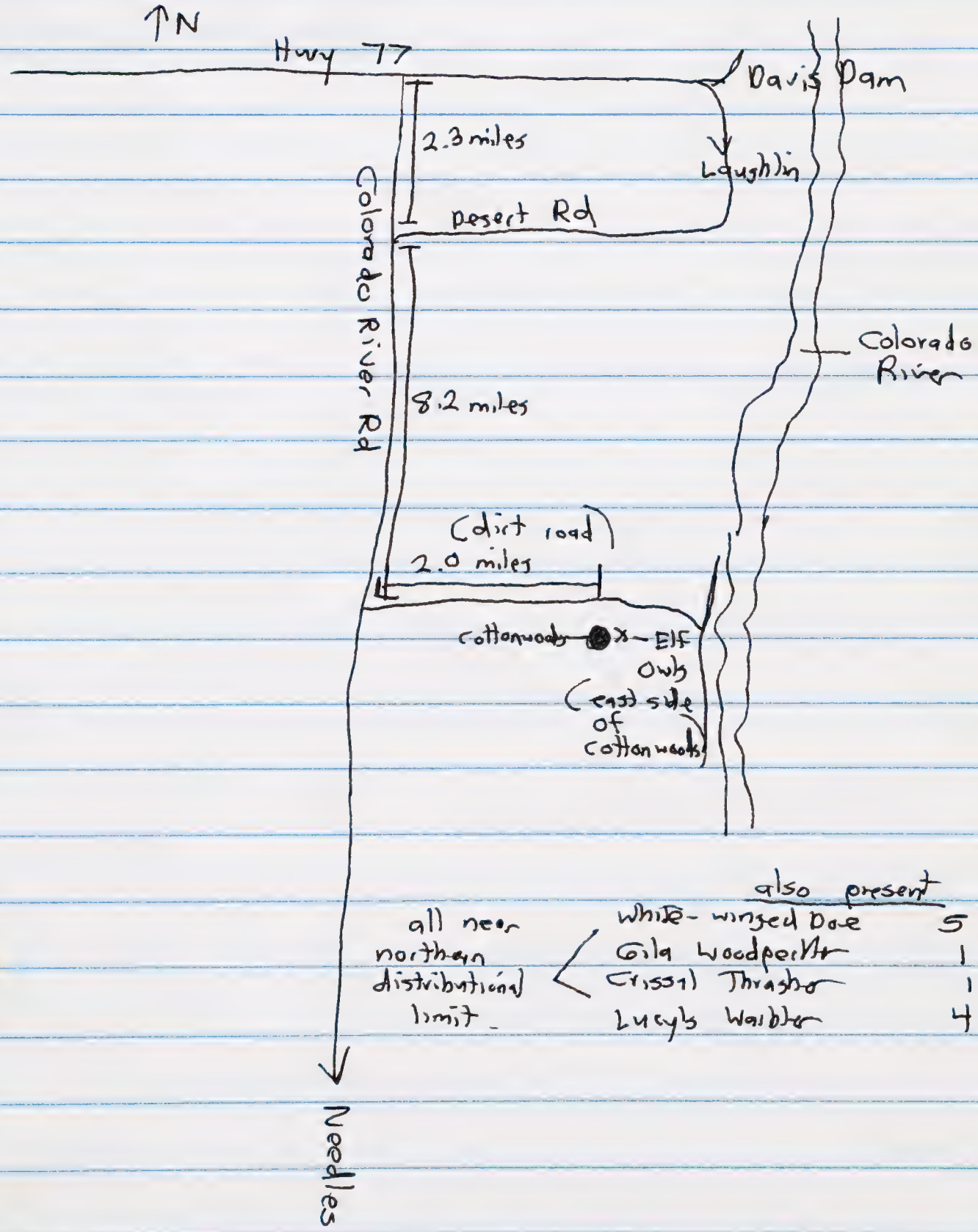


Remsen, J.V. 1976

Elf Owl

Micrathene whitneyi

Apr. 21 Fort Mohave, Clark Co., Nevada: 2 calling in small cottonwood grove in disturbed mesquite woodland – extreme northern limit of distribution – only recorded for Nevada once previously – bird collected at Fort Mohave in 1975 (C.S. Lawson – pers. comm).



	also present	
all near northern distributional limit	White-winged Dove	5
	Gila Woodpecker	1
	Crissal Thrasher	1
	Lucy's Warbler	4

The birds began calling vigorously before dark and the degree ~~and vigorosity~~ (and of calling was very reminiscent of that around the active nest at Needles

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Long-eared Owl

Asio otus

Mar. 21 Anza-Borrego, San Diego Co., Calif: 1 Tamarisk Grove. campground

Apr. 25 Anza-Borrego, San Diego Co., Calif: 2 - 1 sitting on nest 20' up in tamarisk tree in Tamarisk Grove campground right next to ranger station

Oct. 5 Mesquite Springs, Inyo Co., Calif: 2

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1976

Short-eared Owl

Asio flammeus

Mar. 7 Honey Lake, Lassen Co., Calif. : 1 Honey Lake WLA

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Aegolius acadicus

Apr. 25 Palomar Mtn., San Diego Co., Calif: 2 heard at two separate spots,

Apr. 1 Monterey area, Monterey Co., Calif: 1 Robinson Cyn.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Whip-poor-will

Caprimulgus vociferus

May 15 Clark Mountain, San Bernardino Co., Calif: 1 seen well at dawn, singing constantly 0400–0530 in white fir area. Seen by everyone.

June 12 Clark Mountain: 1 singing constantly 0430–0445 in white fir area.

It was this experience that made me realize that my "hearing capabilities" are more than just the result of years of practice — I know now that I can detect sounds at distances much greater than other birders: At 0400, I heard the bird calling up the mountain. I pointed this out to the others, but no one else could hear the bird, not even by cupping their ears. Although faint, I could hear it clearly. I think that everyone else thought that I was crazy. So, we hiked up another 10 minutes or so towards the bird uphill, and I asked everyone if they could hear it this time. Only Jon Dunn, after cupping his ears, could hear the constantly singing bird! So, we hiked another 10 minutes, stopped, and listened. This time, most people could hear it by cupping their ears towards the bird — to me, it sounded loud-and-clear.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Common Nighthawk

Chordeiles minor

Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co. Calif. : 1 at Myer's Ranch – First ever seen in San Diego Co. : Flushed from a tamarisk tree, the whiter underparts, white wing mark nearer bend of wing, and deep wingbeat and higher-above-ground flight were used to distinguish it from Lesser. Silent.

Remsen,
J.V.
1976

Black Swift

Cypseloides niger

June 9 Encino Reservoir, Los Angeles Co., Calif.: 3 seen flying west over Encino from the west end of the reservoir — Very large, all dark, long-winged, slow-flapping (relatively) — presumably late migrants.

June 17 Yosemite Valley, Mariposa Co. Calif.: 4 at Bridalveil Falls at 0715 and 8 over Happy Isles.

Aug. 11 Año Nuevo St. Res., San Mateo Co. Calif.: 3

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1976

Chimney Swift
Chaetura pelagica

June 9 Encino Reservoir, Los Angeles Co., Calif. : 1 seen low over ridges at west end of reservoir at 1755 hrs. Jon Dunn had seen 2 here earlier in the day (0930-1030) under overcast conditions. We had to wait nearly three hours until one reappeared in the afternoon, and then it was only in view for a minute or so before disappearing. It differed from Vaux's Swift in the following ways: (1) flight much more gliding, often going without flapping for several seconds – I have never seen Vaux's Swift do any gliding, even momentarily – they flap almost continuously; (2) wings are held in a more downward arched position, especially when gliding; (3) this bird appeared almost all dark underneath – Vaux's usually shows some contrasting paleness on throat; (4) wings seemed longer proportionally than in Vaux's. The combination of (1), (2), and (4) made this bird's flight resemble that of White-throated Swift more than Vaux's. Dunn had heard the birds in the morning giving rapid "chittering" calls but we heard nothing this afternoon. Vaux's Swifts are gone from S. Calif by third week of ~~June~~ May and most Chimney Swift records are for June.

Aug. 11 Año Nuevo St. Res. San Mateo Co. Calif. : 2. Two were seen and heard while we were watching Black Swifts. I was assuming that all the black swifts were Blacks until I heard a rapid twittering which immediately recalled Chimney Swift. Two birds were seen – they were very glossy blackish, with throat only slightly paler than underparts. The long wings, ~~and~~ dark throat and breast, and consistent gliding immediately ruled out Vaux's Swift. The question, interestingly, was whether or not they were Blacks. Although the two species were not actually seen together, it was obvious that the Chimneys were smaller bodied, approximately the same size as the swallows with which they were foraging (except for longer proportioned

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Chimney Swift

Chaetura pelagica

Aug. 11 [cont]

wings) and did not dwarf the swallows the way the Black Swifts did. The Chimneys had much thinner wings and a much more rapid wingbeat, although they did do a lot of gliding (but not as much as Black). The twittering call sequence was heard three times. I have never heard any sound of any kind given by Black Swifts. The Chimney Swifts had square tails – Blacks, slightly forked.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Vaux's Swift

Chaetura vauxi

Feb. 16 Oceanside, San Diego Co., Calif: at least 3 at Whalen Ranch. Although these birds appeared fairly sooty throated, they had the short wings and veering, fluttery flight of Vaux's. Silent.

Apr. 13 Yucca Valley, San Bernardino Co., Calif: 1 e. of town - first arrival.

May 6 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernardino Co. Calif: 1 Granite Pass

May 7 E. Mojave: 6 at Kelso

May 13 E. Mojave: 2 at Bathtub Spring in Pinto Valley at 6000'

Sep. 17 South Coast Botanical Garden, Los Angeles Co., Calif.: 3 - first fall. arr

Sep. 25 Tijuana River Valley, San Diego Co., Calif: 40 - exceptional number

Point Loma, San Diego Co., Calif: 25 - "

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J.V.
1976

Rufous Hummingbird

Selasphorus rufus

Mar. 5 Cadiz, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 1♂, 1♀ - flowering Eucalyptus and fruit tree. Although it would not be unusual to see this specier at this time of year on the coast, it seems way strange to find them so early in the desert since there are no flowers anywhere yet - if they hadn't found Cadiz, they wouldn't have found any food.

Mar. 23 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 1♂, 1♀ Kelso Post Office

June 20 Sequoia Natl. Park, Tulare Co., Calif.: 1♀ - early fall migrant - assumed not to be Allen's.

July 19 E. Mojave: 35 in Chilopsis in Cedar Cyn - 3 ad. ♂♂

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Anna's Hummingbird
Calypte anna

Jan. 12 Cadiz, San Bernadino Co., Calif.: 1♀ drinking from Red-naped Sapsucker drillings, where it was seen on 12 Dec. 1975. — very rare this far northeast in desert in winter. "Chap" notes of Anna's, green speckled flanks

Jan. 29 Cadiz: 1♀

Feb. 2 Caliz: 1♀

Feb. 10 Mountain Spring, San Diego Co., Calif: 1♂ singing at the spring. *Nicotiana* present

Feb. 28 Tucson area, Pima Co., Ariz: Jon Dunn found a nest built on top of a small, unopend pine cone ~20' up in an introduced pine tree in Evergreen Cemetery — nest apparently still under construction — female visited regularly just to sit momentarily on nest. Three other Anna's (sex unknown) were also seen in the cemetery. This species has only recently been discovered breeding in Arizona. Ted Parker says they are absent in spring and summer. Do the birds nest once in early spring and then migrate back to Calif and nest again?

Mar. 5 Cadiz: 1♀

Mar. 27 Earp, San Bernadino Co., Calif.: 1♀ (call notes, green flecking on flanks) at US Govt residences at Parker Dam.

Apr. 6 Cadiz: 1♀

Apr. 11 Cadiz: 1♀

Apr. 13 Cadiz: 2♀

May 31 Cottonwood Canyon (nr. Oasis Ranch, Mono Co.), Inyo Co., Calif: 1♂ singing — not seen well enough to determine if ad. or imm., but size and distinctive buzzy song given from perch made I.D. 100% positive — very unusual this far north east of Sierras.

July 4 Ramsey Canyon, Huachuca Mtns, Co., Ariz: 1♀ — unusual in summer — hard Anna's chip notes, green flecking on sides and belly, white spot behind eye, larger than *Selasphorus* or *Archilochus*.

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Annas Hummingbird

Calypte anna

July 18 East Mojave Desert, San Bernardino Co., Calif.: 1 ♂ feeding in *Chilopsis* blossoms in Cedar Canyon at 4960 ft. First noticed it because of its typical dry Anna's chatter-scold when battling rufous - Larger and greener backed than Costa's / Black-chinned; green flecking on sides and flanks forming vest-like pattern on underparts; throat duskier than Costa's / Black-ch; no rufous in tail - green with black and white tips. Very rare in high desert and an unusual time of year. The three previous records from E. Mojave were in October.

July 28 E. Mojave: 1 ♂ in *Chilopsis* flowers in Wild Horse Cyn at 4400 ft - large size, green speckled flanks, dusky throat, back bright green, hard call notes

July 29 E. Mojave: 1 ♂ in Live Oak Cyn at 6000 ft. - larger than Selasphorus, green speckled flanks, dusky throat, bright green back.

Sep. 11 San Diego Boat Trip, San Diego Co. Calif: 1 → E

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Costa's Hummingbird

Calypte costa

Feb. 11 Yuha Desert, Imperial Co., Calif.: 43 counted in Pinto Cyn from Davies Valley to permanent spring. A nest under construction was found about 18" above ground in a mesquite. The air was filled with the high explosive song of the males and the high-pitched chatter resembling the notes of *Psaltriparus minimus* given by both sexes. The females appear a smudgy white below without any markings on the flanks; there is a dark (purple iridescent) indistinct smudge on the center of the throat; there is a small white crescent behind the eye; and a very slightly darker smudgy area extending below the eye (very indistinct). The male gives an aerial, dive-bombing display similar to that of *Selasphorus rufus* but there is no feather-produced whistle or pop at the bottom of the dive.

Mar. 24 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif.: 1♂ Cottonwood Spg – First spring arrival

Apr. 21 E. Mojave: Nest with incubating bird 35' up in *Salix* in riparian woodland at Ft. Piute

Apr. 22 E. Mojave: Nest under construction 4' up in *Baccharis* at Ft. Piute.

Apr. 23 E. Mojave: N/1e 3' up in cottonwood; N/construct 3' up *Salix*

Apr. 29 E. Mojave: 1♀ in White Fir stand in New York Mtns at 7100' – Bushtit-like call notes, pale white underparts, small size – extremely high elevation

May 19 E. Mojave: 1 nest at Ft. Piute fledged 2 yg; another still was 2 yg in nest. Adult ♂♂ are decreasing – ♀/im. types increasing.

July 18 E. Mojave: 8 ♀ in *Chilopsis* in Cedar Canyon

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Broad-tailed Hummingbird

Selasphorus platycercus

Apr. 28 East Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif: 1♂ heard distinctly as it buzzed by at Keystone Mine in the New York Mtns at 6400' in Pinyon-Juniper-Oak woodland.

May 13 E. Mojave: 1♂ heard flying by Bathtub Spring at 5800' in Pinto Valley.

May 18 E. Mojave: 1♂ Keystone Mine, 6400', N.Y. Mtns.

May 30 Tollhouse Spring, Westguard Pass, Inyo Co., Calif: 1♂

May 31 Tollhouse Spring: 1♂

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Calliope Hummingbird

Stellula calliope

Apr. 13 Cadiz, San Bernardino Co., Calif.: 1 ♂ - feeding on *Larrea* blossoms

Apr. 15 East Mojave Desert, San Bernardino Co., Calif: 1 ♂ Cottonwood wash at NE corner of Granite Mtns at 4000' in wash at edge of hills.

Apr. 27 E. Mojave: 1 ♂, 1 ♀ at Kelso. Male consistently chased and displayed at ♀. The dive of this species sounds very similar to that of Costa's — a little thinner and shorter. The call notes sounded intermediate between Anna's and Rufous — not as hard as Anna's but not as buzzy as Rufous.

Apr. 28 E. Mojave: 1 ♂ at Kelso.

May 30 Tollhouse Spring, Westguard Pass, Inyo Co., Calif.: 1 ♂ - singing and displaying.

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Berylline Hummingbird
Amazilia beryllina

July 3 Cave Creek Canyon, Cochise Co., Arizona: One, and probably two, individuals coming to feeders at Southwest Research Station, where they had been present for at least two weeks. One was almost certainly a female since its gorget was not solid - it had a whitish chin and a few flecklings on the throat. The other, assumed to be a male, was not seen as well, but seemed to have a solid green gorget (no whitish chin or dark flecklings), more rust in the primaries, and a more purplish tail. The tail is a distinctive combination of bright rufous outer rectrices and glossy purple centrals. The apparent female landed on the lip of what may have been its nest and pecked at it with its bill; however, the nest appeared several times too large for a hummingbird of this size and was situated in the crotch of a limb, not on a horizontal branch as with most hummers with which I am familiar. The bird may have been stealing nest material, which in any case would indicate local nesting, and would be the first for North America.

July 4 Cave Creek Canyon: ♀ seen well again. To my knowledge the bird has not been seen to go to the above nest ever again, despite nearly continuous observation of the vicinity, but no other bird has been seen near it either.

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Broad-billed Hummingbird

Cynanthus latirostris

Jan. 26 3401 Cazador Ct., Glendale, Los Angeles Co., Calif: 1♂ at feeder where it has been coming for a couple of weeks. Beautiful plumage — blue throat, short but conspicuous white eyebrow; orange-red bill with dark tip; green belly and upperparts; large, broad, long tail (not shown adequately in field guides), blue-black in color and deeply forked but with very rounded corners. Sixth record for Calif. The bird was very cooperative — when I walked in the door it was sitting on the feeder and allowed me to walk right up to the window to look at it. Call note - a rapid, high, dry chatter — sounds like Ruby-crowned Kinglet chatter.

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Los Angeles Times
VIEW
★ PART IV
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1976

Broad-billed Hummingbird

JACK SMITH

Rare Bird Starts Life Humming

We haven't had a more exciting weekend up on Mt. Washington since the brush fire that took eight houses 15 or 20 years ago.

It began quietly enough, earlier in the week, when a neighbor of ours on the other side of the hill, Dan Trimmer, looked out his window and saw a strange bird. As his wife Lee recalled it later, trying to get his exact words, he called to her and said, "There's a dopey-looking bird out here."

Dan Trimmer had been ailing and was in bed on a small porch or sunroom of the Trimmer living room. It is a small two-level house perched on a steep side of the hill in a forest of trees and chaparral. Bird life is abundant, and Trimmer had been entertaining himself by watching through the window.

Mrs. Trimmer got to the window in time to see the bird and realized it was one she had never seen before. She isn't what you would call a hard-core bird-watcher, but fortunately she is interested enough to own a copy of Peterson's Field Guide. Even so, she was too busy at the moment to look the new bird up, and it was two or three days, as she recalls, after they realized the unusual bird was still hanging around, before she decided to see if she could identify him.

It was no trouble at all. The bird was a hummer, which was obvious, but what made him different, among other things, was his bill. It was broad and red. Indeed, he looked very much like the bird whose picture she found on Page 166: a male broad-billed hummingbird.

"*Cynanthus latirostris*," the book said, "Male: Dark green above and below with a blue throat (bird looks all black in distance). Bill bright red, with black tip. Voice: A chatter . . . Hum of male is higher pitched than other species; has *zing* of a rifle bullet."

One thing gave her pause. The bird wintered in Mexico, and was not listed as occurring in California at all. Even so, Mrs. Trimmer felt quite sure. Book in hand, she telephoned the Audubon Society.

"I have a broad-billed hummingbird outside my window on Mt. Washington," she told them.

Perhaps the volunteer who took that message to add to the society's regular taped report of sightings was not fully aware of its importance. But the news spread in minutes.

It would be hard to overstate the impact of Mrs. Trimmer's discovery on the inner circle of the Audubon, and eventually on the tranquility of her own household and neighborhood. It would have caused less excitement if President Ford had dropped in by helicopter to visit Mt. Washington School at the top of the hill.

Mrs. Trimmer's first call came from Jean Brandt, a mainstay of the local Audubon and a birder of unimpeachable integrity. Ms. Brandt verified Mrs. Trimmer's report by phone, then got in her car at once and drove to Mt. Washington to see for herself. The Trimmer house is not easy to find, and when you find the address the house is still hard to find, being somewhat concealed, like a birdhouse in a tree; but Jean Brandt, I'm sure, would have brooked no obstacle in her quest.

For the fact is that the broad-billed hummingbird had *never* before been seen in Los Angeles.

I am pleased to say that Ms. Brandt suggested to Mrs. Trimmer, with whom I was not acquainted, that she telephone me. "He'd like to know," she said, or something like that.

★

Mrs. Trimmer did phone me, but by the time I could finish up my work and get over to her house I found that a dozen of the best-known birders in the West had been there first. Mrs. Trimmer had decided to put out a guest book, and it was already signed by Arnold Small, Shumway Suffel, Charles and Elsie Bernstein and other illustrious birders.

"You wouldn't believe it, who's been here," said Mrs. Trimmer. "My husband said, 'Who's coming over—a bunch of little old ladies?' Well, they've been *mostly* men. And such nice people."

"Is he still around?" I asked. "The bird?"

"Oh, yes. Every 20 minutes."

The hummer would appear, Mrs. Trimmer promised me, at the feeder hanging just outside her kitchen window. "You'll hear him. He makes a lot of noise."

In a minute or two I heard a *zing* and some chatter and there he was, not feeding, but hovering and looking in the window.

"He has to check you out," said Mrs. Trimmer.

Evidently satisfied, the bird settled into the ring under the feeder, stuck his long red bill into the cup, and drank.

That was only Friday. All day Saturday and Sunday the birders came, and Mrs. Trimmer has been advised to expect some from as far away as Santa Barbara and San Francisco.

The wonderful thing about it for me, of course, is that the Audubon is now obliged to review my case. If Lee Trimmer can see a broad-billed hummingbird on Mt. Washington, why can't I see a grackle?

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Belted Kingfisher

Ceryle alcyon

Feb. 21 Fairmount Park, Riverside Co. Calif: 1 ♂ (20, DT, + 3)(15 - DT + 3)(12, DT + 2)

Mar 6+7 Honey Lake, Lasson Co. Calif: 2

Apr. 15 E. Mojave Desert, San Bernardino Co. Calif: 1♂ at Kelso - no water, muchless fish.

The only other record from E. Mojave is one on 16 Apr. 1974.

Apr. 22 E. Mojave: 1 at Ft. Piute in riparian woodland.

May 17 E. Mojave: 1 at Kelso.

Aug. 11 Monterey, Monterey Co. Calif.: 1 at Carmel River mouth, 1 Monterey Harbor, 1 Pt. Pinos

Aug. 18 Channel Islands Boat Trip, Ventura Co. Calif: 2 on Anacapa Island.

Aug. 20 Mission Dam, San Diego Co. Calif.: 1

Fish samples Fairmont Pail 2-21-76

(1) 1150-1210, V=12 +,0
1-2 : 78
2-3 : 2

(2) 1215-1235 V=12 , +,0
1-2 : 53

Remsen, J.V. 1976

(Yellow-shafted) Common Flicker

Colaptes auratus auratus

Mar. 20 San Diego area, San Diego Co., Calif. : 1 ♂ on lawn at Presidio Park with no visible traces of Red-shafted characters.

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(Gilded) Common Flicker
Colaptes auratus chrysoides

Jan. 23 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co, Calif: 1 Cima Dome Joshua trees

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Williamson's Sapsucker

Sphyrapicus thyroides

Mar. 21 Cuyamaca Mtns., San Diego Co., Calif: 1♂ + 1♀ together in Ponderosa Pines at Rancho Cuyamaca St. Park - trail above campground

Mar. 26 Eastern Mojave Desert, San Bernadino Co., Calif.: 1♂ in Pinyon - Juniper on census plot. According to Johnson, Bryant, and Miller (1948) - "Vertebrates of the Providence Mtns", they probably winter in small #s in this habitat, although this is the first I have seen all winter.

Sep. 21 Fairmount Park, Riverside Co., Calif.: 1♀ in cottonwoods in riparian. Dull brownish head without any pattern; black-and-white ladder-back pattern on back and wings; flanks and sides also black and white barred; belly yellowish; silent; white rump in flight. Conspicuous. Extremely rare in lowlands anywhere in Calif.

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J.V.
1976

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Centurus carolinus

Oct. 19 Bonny Reservoir, Yuma Co., Colo.: 1♂ in elms in campground at west side of reservoir, a known locality for this species. Bonny Res. may be the only area in the Western U.S. where this species can be seen regularly.

Remsen, J.V. 1976

Gila Woodpecker

Centurus ~~uropygialis~~

Apr. 21 Fort Mohave, Clark Co., Nevada: 1 in small cottonwood grove — northern limit of distribution.

Apr. 24 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif: 2 in Eucalyptus grove just. w. of hospital in Brawley — apparently the only place they occur in Imperial Valley

Apr. 25 Salton Sea: 1 same spot.

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1976

Hairy Woodpecker
Dendrocopos villosus

Aug. 20 Mission Dam, San Diego Co. Calif. - 1 heard and seen well in riparian woodland - extremely unusual at this low altitude

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J.V.
1976

Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Dendrocopos scalaris

Apr. 21 Fort Mohave, Clark Co., Nevada : Nest 50' up in cottonwood — large young peering out hole.

Apr. 25 Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Calif : 1 carrying food to nest hole 15' up in dead tree.

May 23 Lida, Esmeralda Co., Nevada : 1 ♀ heard and seen well - perhaps at ~~May 28~~ northern limit of Nevada range?

May 28 Lida : 1♂ - same spot.

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1975–1976

Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Feeding Data
E. Mojave Desert

Distance to nearest — in ft.

sex	Date	elev	Location	ground	rock	grass	bush	creosote	catclaw	sage	gr yucca	tr yucca	Joh Tree	Cholla	Jun	Pinyon	oak
♂	3 Dec		Hole-in-Wall	.5		.5	.5				14			0			
♂	|			.5		.5	.5				14			0			
♀	|	4350	OX Ranch	3		.5	30	50			x		0	40	x	new leaves	
♀	4 Dec	4120	Wild Horse Ranch	.5		.5	.5				4		x	0	x		
♂	|	4110	|	.5		1	2				10			0			
♂	10 Dec.	5200	Pinto Valley	2	150	3	4	–	–	100	5	–	–	5	0(B)	150	–
	|	|	|	.5	100	.5	.5	–	–	100	2	–	–	0	12	100	–
	|	4480	nr Burro Seg.	3	–	1	1	10	–	–	2	–	0	2	–	–	–
♀	11 Dec	4520	Globe Cyn	5	25	1	1	–	–	–	6	–	–	8	3	(D)(B) 0	–
♂	|	|	|	1	35	.5	1	–	–	–	0	–	–	20	5	15	–
♀	12 Dec	3560	Mitchell Curns	.5	5	.5	.5	–	–	–	10	12	–	0	–	–	–
|	|	|	|	1	4	.5	.5	–	–	–	3	10	=	0	–	–	–
				1	8	.5	.5	–	–	–	4	10	–	0	–	–	–
				1	15	.5	.5	–	–	–	2	4	–	0	–	–	–
♂	18 Dec	4800	Mid Hills	3	8	.5	.5	–	–	–	5	30	0(d)	5	20	150	–
♀	|	|	|	2	5	.5	1	–	–	–	2	2	0(d)	3	8	170	–
♀	|	4550	Cima Dome ~~Cedar Cyn~~	4	–	1	1	–	–	–	5	–	0(B)	2	–	–	–
♀	6 Jan	4480	Cima	7	–	1	.5	–	–	–	2	–	0(B)	4	–	–	–
♀	21 Jan		Nevada	4	–	10	1	5	–	–	–	500	0(FS)	50	–	–	–
♂	|	|	|	2	–	3	15	4	–	–	–	500	0(B)	30	–	–	–
♀	22 Jan	4480	Cima	1	–	1	.5	–	–	–	4	300	5	0	–	–	–
♀	|	|	|	.5	–	1	.5	–	–	–	3	300	4	0	–	–	–
♀	29 Jan	4480	|	5	–	1	.5	–	–	–	4	–	0	8	–	–	–
♀	18 Feb	5600	Midhills	10	100	.5	15	–	–	8	5	–	–	50	4	0B	–
♀	19 Feb	4200	Cottonwood W	.5	10	.5	1	–	50	–	500	8	–	0	500	500	500
♂	13 ~~Feb~~ Apr	4200	Wild Horse Cyn	1	500	.5	1	–	25	–	–	0	–	2	–	–	–
	|	|	|	1	|	.5	1	–	15	–	–	0	–	2	–	–	–
				.5	|	.5	2	–	0	–	–	3	–	8	–	–	–
♂	14 Apr	5120	Cima Dome	2	75	.5	1	–	–	–	2	–	0	2	–	–	–
|	|		|	3	100	.5	2	–	–	–	10	–	0	8	–	–	–
♀	|		|	1	150	.5	2	–	–	–	20	–	0	15	–	–	–
|	|	4960	|	3	200	.5	.5	–	–	–	5	–	0FS	4	–	–	–

90-46